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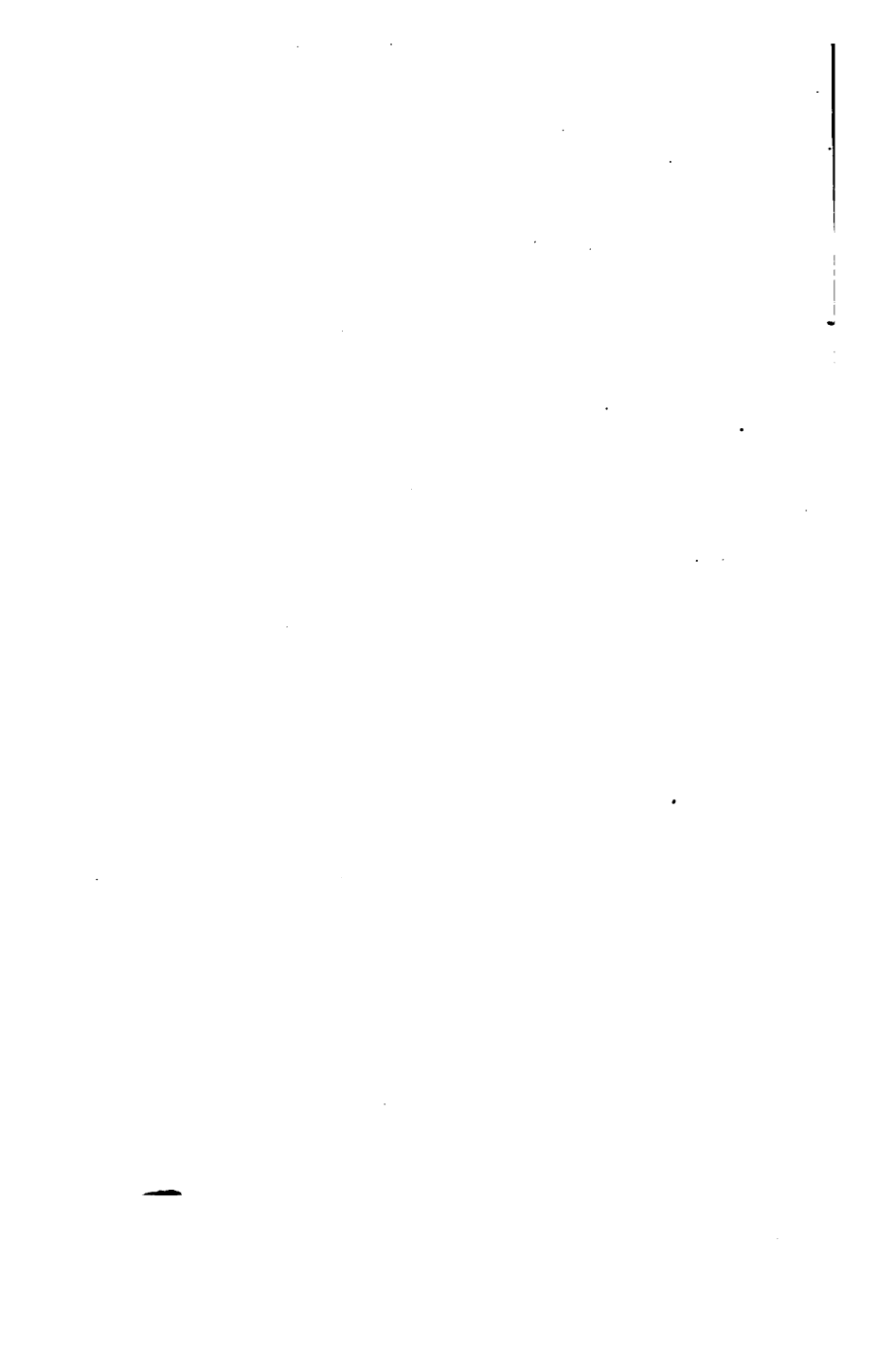
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THE PORTAGE PATH

BY

P. P. Cherry
P. P. CHERRY



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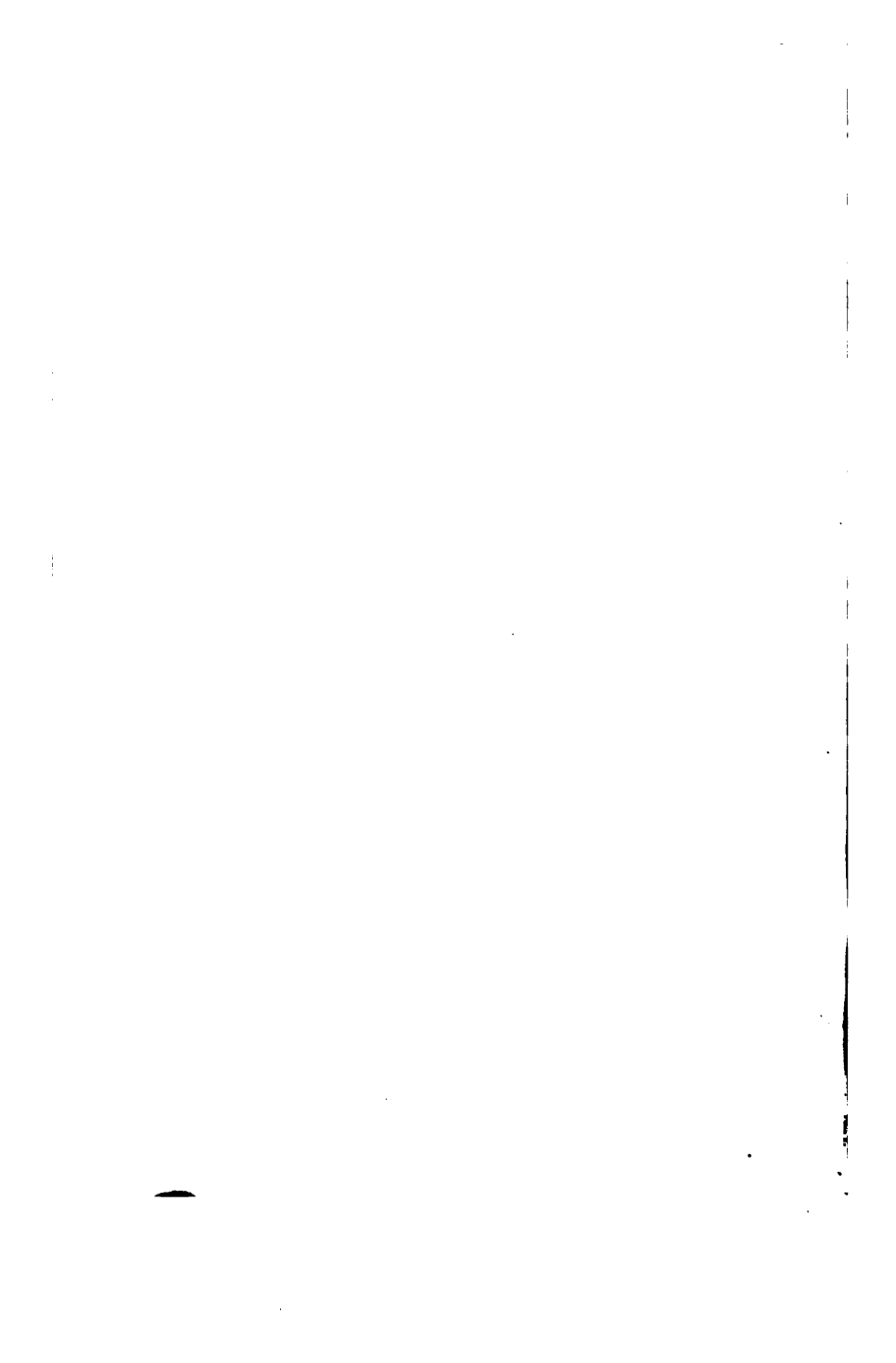


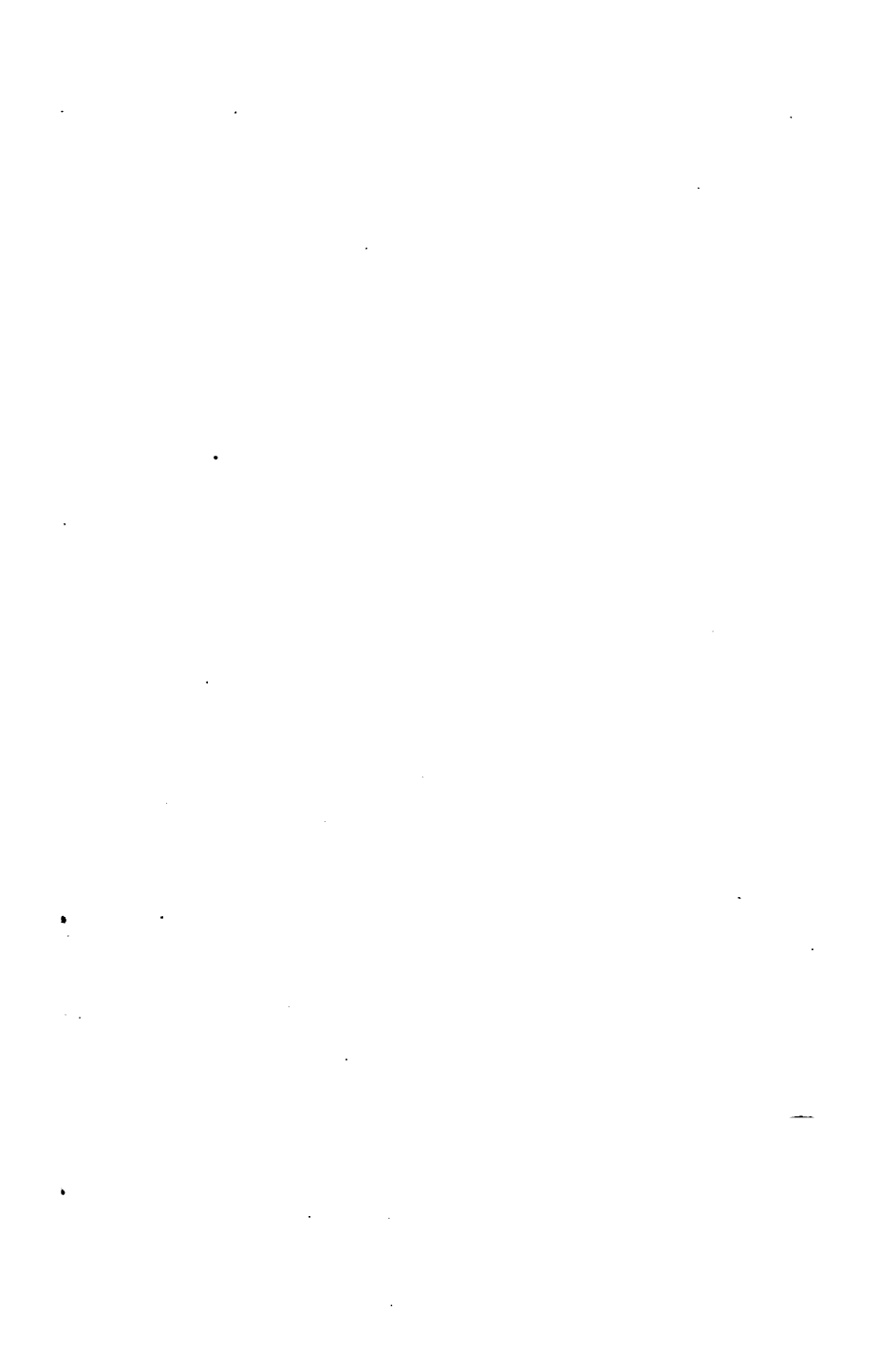
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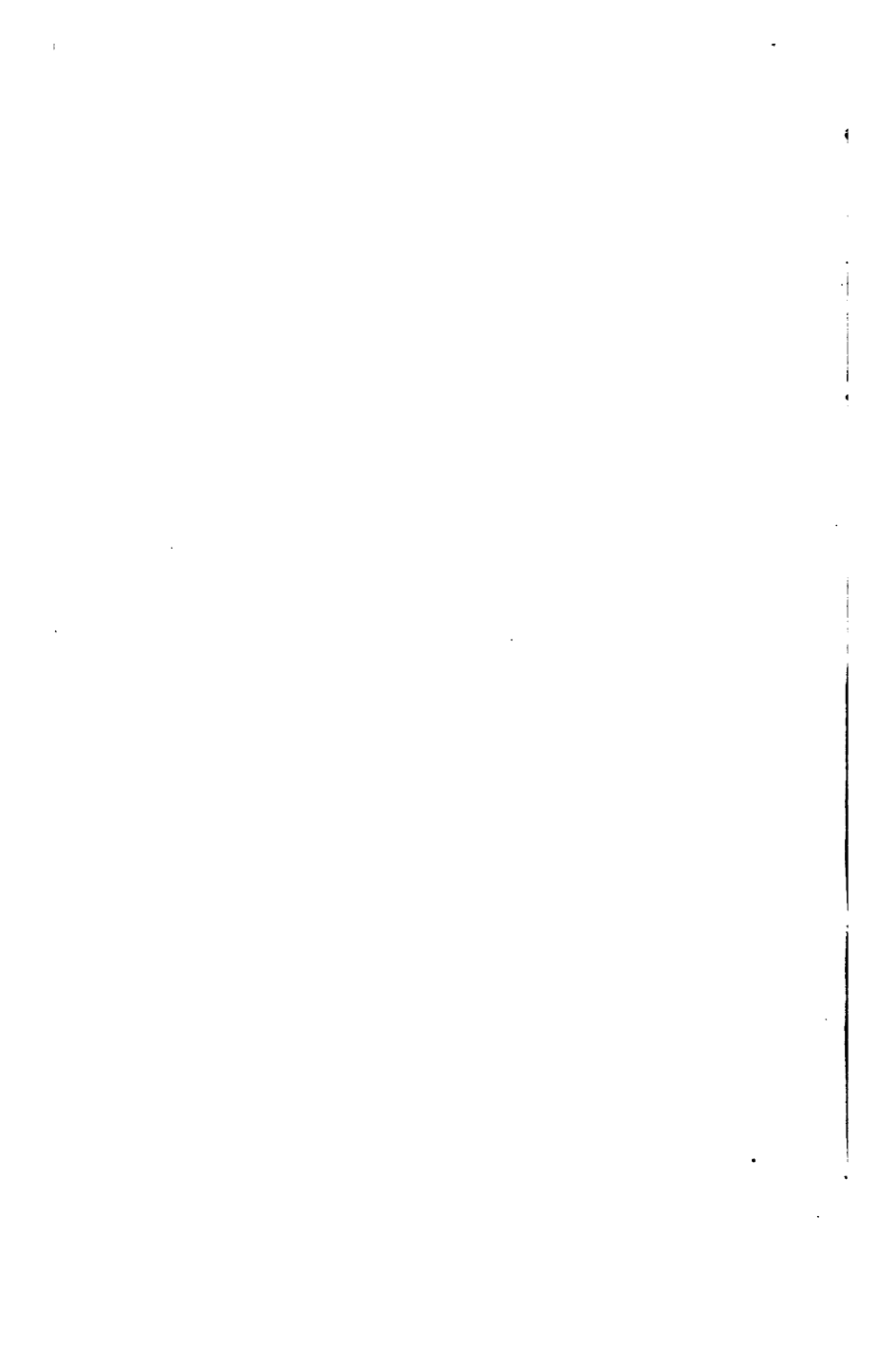
TO
CAPTAIN T. D. WOLBACH
A VETERAN OF THE OLD GUARD, SOLDIER,
CITIZEN, PATRIOT, AND MY LIFE-LONG
FRIEND, THIS LITTLE VOLUME IS
RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED.













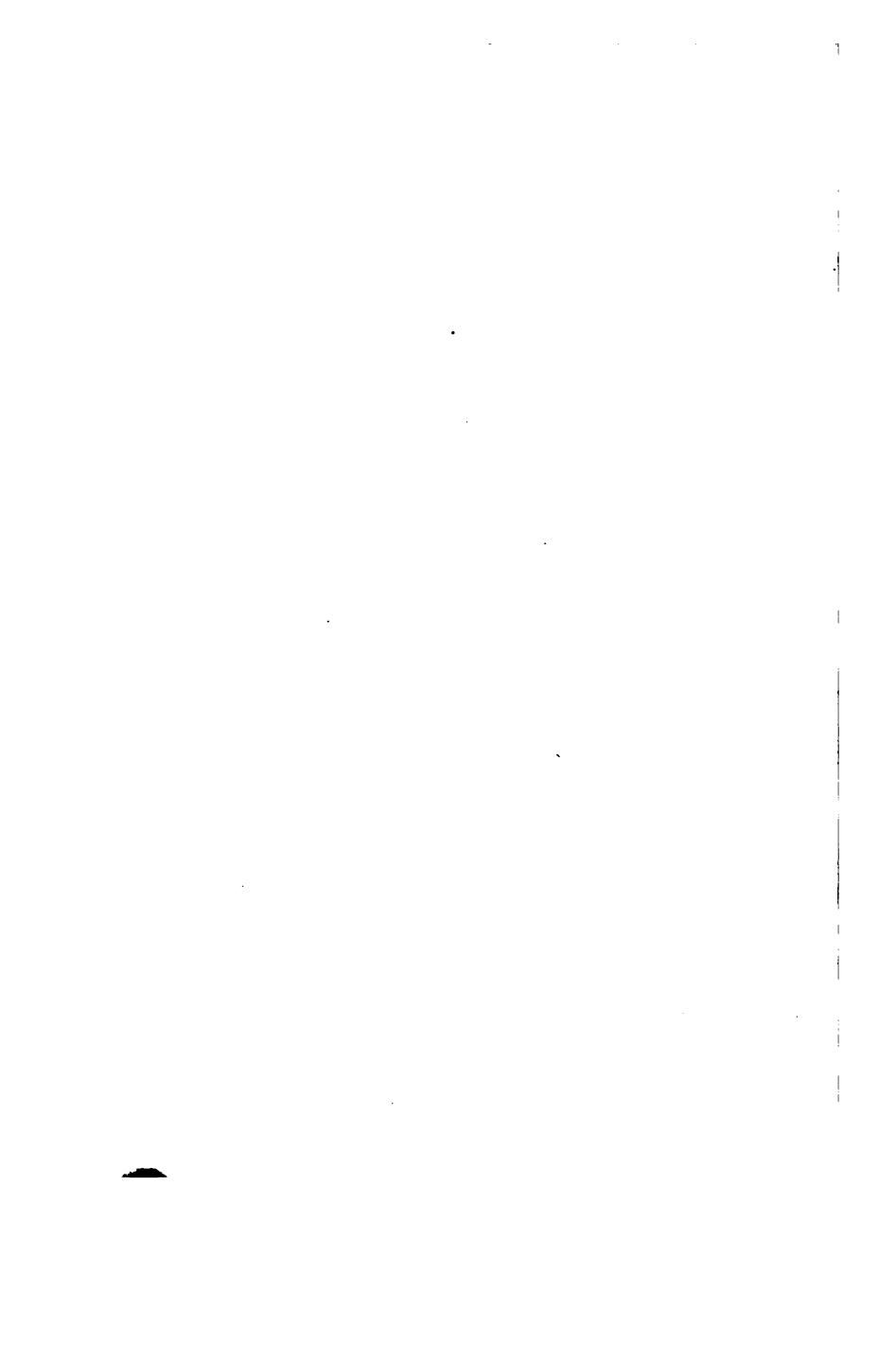


Contents

Primitive Cuyahoga Valley	iv
Foreword	i
An Appeal	6
Captain Pipe of Portage Path—Poem	12
Hopocan—Captain Pipe	13
Portage Path in Early Maps	32
Original Surveyors of Portage Path	34
Western Boundary of the United States	39
Center of Indian Communication	48
An Historic Path: Movement to Mark it	77
Statue Dedicated	81
The Story of Mar Campbell	85
Building of Perry's Vessels	91
An Early River Port	95
Part of United States, 1805	98

Illustrations

My Chum	Frontispiece
Map	ii
	Facing Page
Captain Pipe Warning Scout	13
Path Crossing Indian Clearing	33
Upper Headquarters of Original Surveyors	37
Quiet Stretch on the Cuyahoga	41
Map—Center of Indian Communication	48
Pictured Tree	57
Statue to John Brown	77
Statue to Mark Path	81
Little Mary Campbell	85
Mary Campbell's First Ohio Home	89
Beginning of Portage Path	93
Oogontz	101



The Primitive Cuyahoga Valley

There are very many vallies, vallies of renown.
But the Cuyahoga valley was fairer than these.
And greener its grasses and taller its trees
'Ere the sound of the ax in the forest had rung,
Or the mower his scythe in the meadows had swung.
In their sheltered repose looking out from the wood,
The bark-built wigwams of the Ottawas stood:
There glided the corn dance, the council-fire shone,
And against the red war-post the hatchet was thrown.
There the old smoked in silence their pipe, and the young
To the pike and the white perch their baited lines flung!
There the boy shaped his arrows, and there the shy maid
Wove her many-hued baskets and bright wampum braid.
'O stream of Hopocan! if answer of thine
Could raise from thy waters to question of mine,
Methinks through the din of thy thronged banks a moan
Of sorrow would swell for the days that are gone.
Not for thee, dull jar of the loom and the wheel,
The gliding of shuttles, the ringing of steel:
But that old voice of water, of bird and of breeze,
The dip of the wild fowl, the rustling of trees.

WHITTIER.







"MY CHUM"

FOREWORD

Many generations ago the southern shore of Lake Erie was settled and inhabited for centuries by a strange and mysterious race of whom history is dumb and speaketh not. This almost unknown race was the Eries, or the Cat Nation. Early French map-makers called Lake Erie the "Lac La Chat."

Then, came a bark across the great sea, bearing the seeds of life and death. Life, for a race of people chosen by God to carry religious and political equality to all mankind—a race destined to spread abroad those principles of knowledge and humanity so little known in that day to races of yet unknown and unborn men. The hope of the world, the salvation of the poor and oppressed of every land and clime, religious tolerance and broken shackles, were to go with the flag yet unconceived, and with a nation of freemen yet unborn. To-day God's plan has budded and flowered, and borne fruitage. On that nation to-day, produced from the loins of these men, the sun of God never sets, and wherever the flag of that nation goes, the glorious stars and stripes, there goes the hope of peace, religious tolerance, political equality, the inherent right of all men to life, and property, and the pursuit of happiness.

Foreword

On the other hand, that bark, breasting the stormy waves of the trackless and uncharted Atlantic, brought the seeds of death to a strange and little known people—the children of nature—the natives of a new world, and yet, the eldest born; for long before Europe raised its head above the wilderness of waters, America presented an unbroken line of hill and plain and mountain from the threatening waters of the Atlantic to those of the quiet Pacific.

It was faith that made these wanderers from the oppressive shores of Europe MEN. It was faith that enabled Parson Robinson, standing on the shores of the old world, to say to that little band of pilgrims strong in heart: "There will never be an age when there will not be a better one to come. Whatever happens to this one or that, it matters not; it is the destiny of these people to sail. God's time has come. The sea may rage. The savages of an unknown land may uplift their weapons of war, but the time has come for the truth to make a new nation of free men, who may own their own souls and found a new nation in faith."

Brave words! words of prophecy and of a sublime trust. The finger of destiny was already writing of the coming Western Reserve.

The Pilgrim Fathers sailed, firm in the faith that they were fulfilling the will of God. Then came that long, cold and terrible winter in an un-

Foreword

known land, upon an inhospitable shore, surrounded by savages who were an enemy to their race. Before the grass grew again, or the balmy south winds blew, more than one-half of their number were either dead or dying; "but in those terrible times the faith of the Pilgrim Fathers never failed or faltered, and the star of destiny hung in the clouds over those eight or more rude houses by the sea."

It will be well for the rising generation to remember Elder Brewster's words of faith during those days of tribulation and trial, for they contain for us the true word of prophecy, the handwriting of God upon the walls of time; the way of the coming Western Reserve was being prepared.

"Blessed will it be for us," said this old hero of faith, "blessed for this land, for this vast continent! Nay, from generation to generation will the blessing descend. Generations to come will look back to this hour and these scenes of agonizing trial, this day of small things and say: 'Here was our beginning as a people. These were our fathers. Through their trials we inherit our blessings. Their faith is our faith; their hope our hope; their God our God.'"

Slowly but surely God's chosen people pushed back those children of nature towards the glowing west, clothed with its everlasting garb of primeval forest. First were the shores of the Great Salt Sea depopulated, then the banks of those great

Foreword

fresh water streams, the Hudson, the Mohawk, the St. Lawrence, the Delaware, the Susquehanna. Slowly and sadly they abandoned the hunting grounds of their tribes, the council chambers of their nations and the graves of their sires. Pressed into this narrow space, they very soon came into contact with the fierce lords of the farther west, the unconquerable "home defenders," the terrible warriors of the Cat tribe. The conflict was long and bloody, a war for existence, a war of extermination, cruel, pitiless, hopeless. No quarter was asked or received, and captured warriors went to the stake singing songs of defiance and chanting their deeds of forest valor.

Forced from the beloved shores of the Cat lake the tribe slowly retreated down the Cuyahoga and Rocky valleys, stubbornly contesting every foot of ground and making their last stand in the valleys of the Killbuck, the Chippewa, and the Mohican.

This Indian war ended sometime between 1661 and 1700; no man can say just when.

The way was being prepared for the "coming man," and with the expulsion of the Eries came a noted period in the annals of the aborigines of the country. From this time dated all aboriginal history west of the Alleghanies; with it came the immigration of eastern tribes, Wyandots or Hurons, Delawares, Shawnees, Miamis, Mingoës, Ottawas and Chippewas. With their coming the Cuyahoga, the Tuscarawas, and the Portage Path, became the

Foreword

boundary between nations, and a great neutral highway between the gulf on the south, and the great lakes on the north. The country west of Portage Path was owned by the western Indians while that to the east was the country of the great Six Nations.

The Portage Path was the best, the shortest, the driest, the best known between the great lakes and the rivers running southwardly into the gulf. Its importance in those early days must not be overlooked. For centuries it was the national boundary and neutral highway for all Indian races. Over it came red men carrying their birch-bark canoes from the rivers southwardly to the "Crooked River" flowing to the north, long before Christopher Columbus had even planted the Spanish flag on the shores of the unknown world. Along this path sped the Indian runner on his mission of peace or war, during the dark ages preceding the advent of the white man, and for some three hundred years thereafter. It was not only an Indian trail, but it was the center and key-note of all Indian communication in the entire northwest.

He who runs may read! and to him who delves deep down into the thoughts of an everlasting God there comes a glorious realization of the magnitude of a plan for the regeneration of mankind that takes in a period of time reaching as far back as the day "when the stars sang together and the sea grew quiet and still."

An Appeal

TO THE HONOR AND PRIDE OF THE PEOPLE OF
NORTHERN OHIO.

In briefly reviewing the past, and appealing to the public spirit of the people of Northern Ohio, I have no personal axes to grind, but simply would champion a worthy and imperative cause, because up to this time no one else has seen fit to do so.

The red men of the Ohio valley were migratory in their character and in their tastes.

The Indians of the Cuyahoga were here to-day; to-morrow they perchance would be found down the Tuscarawas; in a week, amongst the Indian towns of the Muskingum, or the rapids of Maumee, the Miami of the lakes; and later, perhaps, in the vicinity of Sandusky or Detroit.

The Cuyahoga and Portage Path villages furnished secure fastnesses, far from the trails of transitory and adventurous whites, who held to the well-beaten trails of better known parts of the Indian country.

Here were their homes, their sacred hearthstones, their families, their corn-fields, and the graves of their sires.

An Appeal

From here down the "Great Central Indian Trail," passing the "falls of Hopocan," crossing the upper Cuyahoga waters at "Standing Stone", whose lone pine was a beacon by day, on up the valley of "Break-neck Creek," crossing the "Summit" not far from Ravenna, thence on through the present townships of Edinburg, Palmyra and Milton to the "Salt Springs" of the Mahoning, and thence, down that river either by canoe or land; to "the forks of the trail", if by the latter; or if by canoe, to "the forks of the Beaver." From there they made their sudden foray to isolated Pennsylvania hamlets, or to lonely, unguarded cabin homes on the extreme border land. Then—the midnight attack, the burning homes, the shrieks of unprotected womanhood and that of helpless infancy. The lust of blood glutted, and loaded with plunder, they made their way back to their forest retreat in two days, or perhaps, if pursued, in a day and night of travel.

Within a radius of thirty miles were clustered 100 fresh water lakes varying in size from the mere pond to sheets of water stretching miles in extent, and filled with fish of savory qualities. These lakes were frequented by wild aquatic fowl of many varieties. These shores, these forests, abounded with a greater variety of wild game and in larger numbers than were to be found in any other section of the Ohio valley. In the beginning of

An Appeal

the 18th century this was the home of elks, and even bison were found. The Indians of the far-away Susquehanna had their hunting grounds here which they called "the Diohoga", the Delaware word for our small but famous river. Even as late as 1838, five hundred deer were the result of one day's circular hunt within twenty miles of Akron, or of the Cleveland of to-day. Sounds like romance, does it not? And yet, until a few years ago, the story could have been verified by living witnesses; today, there are but few living to whom it was related by lips now dead.

European maps of the 17th and 18th century, before Lake Erie and the Ohio River were known upon them, showed the "Cayahogo" and its famous "carrying place" the Portage Path, thickly peopled with Indian villages, while on the present site of Akron clustered the Indian "Cayahogo Town."

But beyond this, even back to the first knowledge which the Europeans had of America, and their faint, crude idea of the Great Lakes, we find a fair knowledge of the "portage of the Cuyahoga," which at that time was regarded as a commercial and strategic point of great value, that to the average citizen of to-day seems strangely exaggerated.

Thomas Jefferson and George Washington at one time were deeply interested in its importance and in the possibility of making a canal between the north line of Portage Path and Summit Lake,

An Appeal

thus forming of it a national highway for ships.

When a young man, George Washington and his inseparable forest companion, Christopher Gist, had penetrated the primeval forest to within ten miles of Lake Erie; may even have reached its shore, and may possibly have visited Portage Path, as his knowledge of it was accurate.

"Ohio's Magna Charta", the Ordinance of 1787, secures to the people of the United States the right of highway on the Tuscarawas, Cuyahoga and Portage Path, and says they shall be "FOR-EVER FREE."

But going back of this—even to the first cry of man—we find the Cuyahoga valley one vast geological lake reaching to almost the northern limits of Akron. Later than this, we find that the waters of the Cuyahoga which had flowed into the gulf, had through some convulsion of nature, near the village of that name, become dammed, and then had cut a new channel, emptying itself into the great lake of the north: not only this, but it had cut a new channel through a high bluff and entered Lake Erie a mile from its former mouth.

To the shame of the people of northern Ohio be it said, that they have allowed their pre-historic highway of Indian nations long since gathered to their fathers, an ancient road-way, pregnant with the care of an early government, of two early presidents of the United States, who gave force and character to the liberty loving of every nation, to

An Appeal

become obscured: nay, almost lost, through the avarice of man and the earthy accumulations of over a century's neglect.

To their shame be it said that they have allowed the corner stones set by Moses Cleveland marking the boundary line of the great nation of the United States to become lost—buried over four feet deep by one hundred and fifteen years accumulation of debris.

Men of the Nation and the State! Citizens of northern Ohio and of Summit County! residents of the metropolis of Ohio, and of Akron! you owe it to the people of Ohio, and to the whole nation, to see that these points be rescued from the undeserved oblivion under which they unjustly lie.

The monumental stones set by Cleveland, and Pease, and Warren, and Holley, have become covered and hidden through a nation's neglect, a state's indifference and the Rip Van Winkleism of the residents of this section, until they can hardly be found by digging.

Will this criminal neglect continue? Or, will the public spirited citizens of northern Ohio, of the old Western Reserve, of Cleveland, the metropolis of the great State of Ohio, of Akron, "the Tip Top City"—"the City of Opportunity," see that these historical points of exceptional national interest, be rescued from the unjust oblivion under which they have lain during a century's growth and wealth.

An Appeal

If the spirit of local interest and of national pride yet beats in your veins as it did when the British were invading your shores in 1812, or, when national honor and the life of the Republic were assailed in '61", then indeed, you will not rest until these great historical and economic points in a great Nation's past are again restored, and to which we can point with just pride as the relics of a time that tried men's souls.

Other states, other counties, other towns, have been for years busily engaged in erecting monuments to commemorate points of historical, state and national interest. Why should the busiest city in Ohio be behind in this work?

The Portage Path can be at this time re-surveyed and life-size monuments of native life set at the corners and other important places which, at a very small cost, will be a joy and pride to our citizens.

We owe it to ourselves, our children, to posterity, to city pride, county renown, state glory and national approbation to see that this is done —and done soon.

Captain Pipe of Portage Path

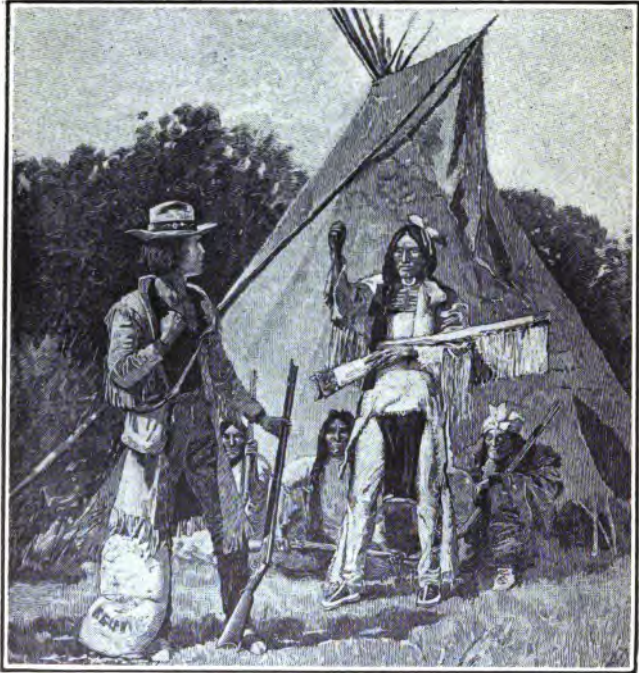
“Here the mighty Hopocan,
Held his long unquestioned sway,
From the green hills far away,
To the Great Lake’s sounding shore;
Chief of chiefs, his regal word
All the river Sachems heard;
At his call the war-dance stirred,
Or was still once more.”

“There were spoils of chase and war;
Jaws of wolf and black bear’s paw,
Panther’s skin and eagle’s claw,
Lay beside his axe and bow;
And adown the roof-pole hung,
Loosely on a snake-skin strung;
In the smoke his scalp-locks swung
Grimly to and fro.”

“Nightly down the river going,
Swifter was the hunter’s rowing,
When he saw that lodge-fire glowing
O’er the waters still and red;
And the squaw’s dark eye burned brighter,
And she drew her blanket tighter,
As with swifter steps and lighter
From that door she fled.”

—Whittier





**Captain Pipe Warning the Scout to Leave the
Red Men's Land**

Hopocan—Captain Pipe the King of Portage Path

Hopocan, Hobacon, Copacon, Wobocan, as it has been variously spelled, or as he was better known, Captain Pipe, was a man of mystery. There is no direct evidence that he was ever born, and none that he ever died.

This strange, mysterious, successful and vindictive historical figure appeared upon the stage and then—disappeared. As near as can be learned he was born somewhere on the Susquehanna, when the eighteenth century was quite young. No man knows when, or where. He belonged to the Wolf clan of the *Lenni—Lenape* or the *Delaware*. His early life as well as his latter end is buried in obscurity. We first hear of him in 1759, then a noted chief, and a man of uncertain age. What had been his environments? We have no knowledge. When he removed to the Ohio country is also not certain. The most that is known is, that in 1764, he was a well known and noted chieftain on the Cuyahoga, Tuscarawas and the Muskingum, as well as in the Delaware villages of Pennsylvania. It was upon the promise of his re-

Captain Pipe

lease that the prisoners in the Indian country were so quickly brought to Bouquet; Capt. Pipe, Capt. John, and one other, being held by him as hostages at Fort Pitt.

His village was located at the end of Portage Path on the Tuscarawas river, between two beautiful fresh water lakes. Geographically, he was located in Coventry township, Summit county. On account of his always signing his name as "King of New Portage," the township has always been known as "the State of Coventry." The location of his village was at an important point in the early history of the country. Both Washington and Jefferson regarded it as a place of great commercial value, and in the ordinance of 1787 it was rated as "a carrying place" and declared to be a national highway and *forever free*. It was the real center of the vast labyrinth of that network of Indian paths traversing the western territory in every direction.

The next we hear from him is some thirty miles below his village, on the Tuscarawas, or as it was then called, the Little Muskingum. The pioneer missionary, Rev. Charles Frederick Post, had come into this great unknown for the purpose of making known to them the God of his fathers. This was in 1761. Having obtained the permission of King Beaver, the Delaware chief, he returned the following year with a young enthusiast, John Heckewelder by name, then but

Captain Pipe

nineteen years of age. Having located his cabin, he proceeded with its erection. Fearing that he was about to erect a fort, the Indians ordered him to desist. A council was held. Post convinced them of his peaceful intentions. Hopocan, a Delaware chief, was appointed to pace off a square of fifty paces each way. This space was thought to be sufficient for the Mission and its attending corn fields. Captain Pipe, the suspicious; Pipe, the crafty, Pipe the wronged, was jealous of the white men. He was afraid of missionaries, doubtful of new religions, ignorant of disinterested benevolence, and knew no virtues but those he had imbibed from his progenitors. The court of final arbitration was to him the tomahawk and scalping knife. The rewards for a good life well lived, was the favor of the Great Spirit in the happy hunting grounds of the spirit land. You may then be sure that his steps were not overly long.

Col. May speaks of seeing Capt Pipe at Fort Harmar, in 1788, and says, "Here I was introduced to Old Pipes, chief of the Delaware Nation, and his suite, dressed and acting like the offspring of Satan." Wm. M. Barlington says "He was ambitious, bold, and noted for schemes and strategy; Captain Pipe was a prominent chief of the Wolf tribe, the most warlike of the Delawares?" The Colonial Records of Pennsylvania state that he was among the warriors at the conference held at Fort Pittt, in July 1759, between George Cro-

Captain Pipe

gan, who was Sir Wm. Johnson's deputy Indian agent, and the Indians of the Six Nations, Shawnees and Delawares.

While Colonel Bouquet was at Fort Pitt in 1764, preparatory to his famous expedition to the heart of the Ohio country, six Indians appeared on a September morning on the bank of the river across from Fort Pitt. Bouquet finally prevailed upon the Indians to visit the fort, when he made them prisoners. Three were soon released and sent to the Indian tribes with his messages; the other three, among whom was Captain Pipe, were retained as hostages until after the return of Colonel Bouquet's army from the Muskingum country, when they were set free. Captain Pipe was a prisoner in Fort Pitt for nearly three months, and it was here where he learned to talk English.

In the following year, 1765, Captain Pipe was at Fort Pitt as one of the chief warriors of the Delawares, attending the "great talk" at that place. Nearly six hundred chiefs and warriors with their squaws and papooses were present. He again was present at the great conference held at Fort Pitt in April, 1768, between George Croghan and over one thousand chiefs and warriors of the Six Nations, and other scattering tribes. In 1771, as the leading chief of the Delawares, he sent a speech to Governor John Penn, of Pennsylvania, which is printed in the Archives of that State.

This same Governor, John Penn, a son of Wm.

Captain Pipe

Penn, offered by proclamation, a premium for Indian captives and scalps, "For the capture of any male above ten years of age, one hundred and fifty-dollars; or for his scalp, being killed, one hundred and thirty-four dollars; and for every female captive, one hundred and thirty dollars, or for the scalp of such female killed, fifty dollars."

The Penns, offering a bounty for women's scalps! humane isn't it?

In May, 1774, in company with White Eyes, Killbuck, Guyasuta and other prominent Delaware chiefs, Capt. Pipe met George Croghan, who came with Dr. John Connelly, Lord Dunmore's tool, in company with the leading citizens at Fort Pitt, in regard to the dastardly murder of Logan's relatives by Cresap and Greathouse. Croghan was the most active of all early treaty makers. On Aug 7, 1757, he met Freedyuscung, king of the Delaware Nation, at Easton, Pa. This aged Indian king was the arbitrator of ten different tribes, and at its close he said to George Croghan, "We have now finished; the treaty is over, peace is confirmed, and I told you I thought of going to Philadelphia; but upon considering the matter with more attention I think it will be more for the public service to proceed immediately to *Diohoga*. Many nations will be uneasy to know what has been done at this council fire, and will take measures accordingly. I shall make the best of my way to *Diohoga*, and proclaim there to nations

Captain Pipe

still more distant the confirmation of the peace with our brethren the English! This will take up three or four months." Indian tribes pronounced Cuyahoga differently. The Delaware name for the River was Diohoga. Fernow, in his second map published in 1754, calls it Diohoga.

George Croghan in his Journal, bearing date July 19, 1727, says: "I understand it is the Lake Indians that are annoying the frontiers at present, with perhaps one or two Delawares with each party." Sir Wm. Johnson, British Indian agent for North America, at this time, informed the British Lords of Trade, that there were on the Scioto River and its branches, three hundred Shawnees warriors; on the Muskingum, Tuscarawas and thence to Lake Erie, six hundred Delaware braves; and near Lake Erie, two hundred Wyandots. This estimate of Johnson's according to all other authorities, fell twenty-two hundred short. This proves two things. First, that previous to 1757, the Delawares were already a power upon the Reserve. Secondly that the depredations of the savages upon the Pennsylvania borders came largely from the Indians of northern Ohio.

It has been said that Captain Pipe was at "Braddock's field" in 1755. In 1759, as a representative of the Delaware Nation, he held a "peace talk" with George Croghan. In 1764, Bouquet used the fact that his release depended upon the chiefs delivering up their captives. In the

Captain Pipe

years 1765, and 1768, he was again at Fort Pitt in the interest of the Delawares. In 1771 he delivered a speech to the Governor of Pennsylvania. In 1774 he again was at Fort Pitt, trying to wrest satisfaction from the whites for the coldblooded murder of Logan's relatives. So far, his peace efforts had been in vain; from now on, his history was to be written in blood. The savagery of his nature was to have full expression. Deeds of daring and bloody reprisals were to make his name dreaded, but famous, all over the north west. The ambush, the scalping knife, the midnight foray, the sudden march, the quick retreat, the battle by day, the torture stake, were to write his name in letters of scarlet. Swift, relentless, tireless, he was ever in the wake of death, and agony, and women's moans.

In 1774, he fought against Lewis at Point Pleasant. In 1778, he battled against the forces of Gen'l McIntosh; in the midst of one of the coldest winters, for long, weary weeks he invested Fort Laurens, until he accomplished the fall of that post—the first stockaded and parapeted fort within the limits of Ohio. In 1779, Col. Bowman's expedition felt his deathly grip. In 1781 he slaughtered Col. Lochry's command, and hung upon the flanks of Col. Broadhead's disgraceful expedition. In 1781 his scouts hung upon Col. Crawford's force from the time it left the Mingo bottoms until it reached the Sandusky plains. An unseen, but a

Captain Pipe

watchful, tireless, vigilant, active foe; and when the time came to strike, Pipe was transformed into a murderous demon, until he was glutted with massacre, and woe and death. He it was who captured the commander of an unfortunate expedition and retreated with his prisoners until he reached one of his villages upon the Tymochtee. Here Pipe painted Col. Crawford the death color with his own hands, while the victim appealed to him in vain. Had Pipe been mercenary, he could have had riches to forego his revenge, but all the gold in India could not have purchased Crawford's life. Pipe's word had passed that he must die at the torture stake. The scene of that long, agonizing, death trial is a matter of national history; we do not propose to repeat it here—it's something to be omitted, to be glossed over, and forgotten with the causes that made it possible, and seemingly necessary, to those wild men of the forest. Later this year, 1782, in August, there was a grand council at "Old Chillicothe Towns," on or near the Great Miami, in which the Wyandots, Delawares, Ottawas, Mingoes, Pottawatomies, Shawnees, and Miamis participated. George and Simon Girty, Elliott and McKee were present and addressed the council. Two armies were raised. One of six hundred to march into Kentucky and lay waste the settlements of the "long knives;" the other, three hundred and fifty strong was to harass the border settlements of Pennsylvania and Virginia. Capt.

Captain Pipe

Armstrong, Thos. Lyons, Bill Montour, Baptiste Jerome and Thomas Jelloway were Pipe's lieutenants. The attack upon Bryant's Station, the siege of Wheeling, the investment of Fort Rice, the burning homes, the massacred families, are all matters of history and need not be recalled. Soon after this, Gen'l Geo. Rogers Clark was afield with a thousand picked borderers from Kentucky and Virginia. The Indian towns on the Miami River were ravaged and burned, and the Shawnees driven far into the interior.

Many of the Christian Moravian Indians were of Capt. Pipe's tribe. He had no use for an Indian who would pray but not fight, hence his enmity towards them up to the year 1782. It was Capt. Pipe and his braves that escorted Captain Matthew Elliott, the British emissary, who entered the Tuscarawas Valley and made prisoners of the Moravians on Sept. 11, 1781, escorting them to "Captives Town," on the Sandusky river, about ten miles from Upper Sandusky. After the massacre of the Moravians, March 8, 1782, by Col. Williamson, the sympathies of Capt. Pipe were turned towards the persecuted Moravians, and he became their avenger. The sequel of this was the torture of Col. Crawford at the stake. The massacre of the Moravians was the cause, the torture of Crawford, the result, making a deep, foul blot on the otherwise fair history of Ohio, a blot that centuries of good deeds will not wipe out.

Captain Pipe

Although he was an inveterate enemy of the whites, yet he was a chronic treaty maker, and when the first treaty was made establishing boundaries in Ohio, Pipe was on hand, and although the treaty robbed him of his own village, he signed it as "Capt. Pipe, King of New Portage." This treaty was concluded at Fort McIntosh, in January 1785. Colonels Logan, in 1786, Edwards in 1787, and Todd in 1788, made warlike expeditions into the Ohio country, but we find no evidence of the old chief taking part against any of these; indeed for the next three years we lose sight of him altogether with the exception that he attended and signed the treaty at Fort Finney in 1786. In 1787, he joined the confederate tribes in favor of the United States. In 1788, we find him at Marietta, welcoming the first permanent settlers to the Ohio country, as the "Mayflower" swung boldly against the bank. At this time he lay encamped here, with seventy of his braves. Gen'l. Harmar writing from Fort Harmar, Mar. 8, 1788, says, "Yesterday Old Pipe with seven of his young men arrived at the garrison and are now with me. Their object is to dispose of their skins to the contractor. He is a manly old fellow, and much more of a gentleman than the generality of these frontier people."

The next year the gathering war clouds hung darkly over the border settlements; the burnings, the robbings, the massacres, were fleeting episodes in the terrible drama then being played. Such a

Captain Pipe

sound of woe went up from all the frontier settlements that Gen'l Harmar made a vigorous but unfortunate campaign against the Indians. This did not subdue the savages, but seemed only to increase their audacity and ferociousness. Capt. Pipe was here, there and everywhere. The blood had no time to dry on their tomahawks or scalping knives. It was a harvest of death and vengeance, and his young men grew fat and daring. The bloody morning of Nov. 4th, 1791, opened dark and gloomy, and a half an hour before the time of sunrise, the ill fated forces of St. Clair gave way before the Indian attack: from that time to night fall, the tomahawks and scalping knives of Capt. Pipe and his braves fell unceasingly. Pipe afterward declared that he had "tomahawked whites until his arm ached." From this time on, the Indian warfare never stopped until the savage power was broken by "Mad Anthony Wayne." All through the years of 1792-3-4, this carnival of butchery and bloodshed continued; the old chief was foremost in all the bloody deeds, he harangued wavering chiefs, he sent his runners to every distant village, he led his braves in person in every desperate venture. Wayne's army moved Oct 7, 1793, building forts and garrisoning them as they went, and on August 20, 1794, the battle of Fallen Timbers was fought and won, and the Indian power broken, until Tecumseh could rally and bind the scattered fragments together, years later, in a

Captain Pipe

desperate attempt to recover the ground their fathers had lost. After the treaty of Greenville in 1795, when Capt Pipe again signed his name as "Hopocan, King of New Portage." Some years later, Thomas Lyons, one of Pipe's lieutenants was interviewed as to his opinion of Wayne.

"Him be great chief." said the Indian. "He be one devil to fight. Me hear his dinner horn—way over there go toot, toot; then way over here it go toot, toot—then way over other side, go toot, toot, then his soldiers run forward—shoot, shoot; then run among logs and brush. Indians have got to get out and run. Then come Long Knives and shoot, shoot. Indians run, no stop. Old Tom see too much fight to be trap—he run into woods—he run like devil—he keep run till he clear out of danger. Wayne great fight—brave white chief. He be one devil." After the treaty of Greenville the old chief became a changed man, he left the war path, he buried the hatchet forever. Old age may have had something to do with this but, be this as it may, he from that time on became friendly to the whites. In 1785 they had ceded to the United States the ground on which his war-village stood, by the treaties of 1785 and 1786 and in 1795, he confirmed this; so after the treaty he moved across the line and at sometime from 1795-97, probably in the latter part of 1795 or the earlier part of 1796, he with Jerome and others of his tribe, built a village on the site of the old

Captain Pipe

Mohican Johnstown, on the south side of the Jerome Fork of the Mohican, about three-quarters of a mile from the present site of Jeromeville, Ashland county. Pipe built a wigwam on the river about a quarter of a mile below the village. From this time on, to the close of his career, accounts of him are very conflicting. In 1808, while surveying Jackson township, Maxfield Ludlow discovered a blazed road which was said to run to the mouth of the Kayhoga (Cuyahoga). In the same year Joseph Larwill, while surveying the sectional divisions of the second township below the Reserve line, made the acquaintance of the old chief. Hon. A. H. Byers says, "Captain Pipe and several of his warriors came upon the surveying party and ordered them to desist, saying: You go tick—tuck, tick—tuck, all day. Me cut your legs off, then how you go tick—tuck, tick—tuck? In the meantime his warriors seized and ran away with the chain, and thus put a stop, for a while, to the work."

Mr. Copus, who was afterwards massacred by the Indians, said, that in the fall of 1809, he attended an Indian feast given by the savages of the Greentown village. They were addressed by old Captain Pipe. Mr. Copus further states that the chief was old, tall and graceful. His eyes had the fire of youth, and blazed with emotion while he was speaking. The whole audience seemed deeply moved by the oration. The savages frequently

Captain Pipe

sobbed and seemed deeply affected. Alexander Coulter states that he also attended a feast in the Indian town of Greentown in 1811, at which Old Captain Pipe was present. So far as we are able to learn, this was the last public appearance of the old chieftain. Mr. Coulter says, "This was the last we hear of him at any public gathering in this region; and we are inclined to think this feast foreshadowed the calamitous war of 1812, which commenced a few months after the feast." James Finley says he saw Pipe in his village a number of times but he has no recollection of his having wife or children. He further states that he left early in the summer of 1812. An old lady in Richland county, states that she saw and talked with Pipe during the war and that he then was over a hundred years old. All authorities agree upon his disappearance. One writer says that just before the beginning of hostilities in 1812, he in company with some of his warriors quietly slipped away. Another says he made his way to Canada. Mere surmises, all of them. The fact remains that in 1812 he wandered away. The probabilities are that either he was met in some woodland nook, by some of the various bands of Indian hunters and killed, or as tradition saith, died of remorse. He was an old, a very old man, yet his influence was worth much to the British. He was repeatedly approached by their agents. To their last, he drew himself up proudly, saying "When I signed the

Captain Pipe

treaty at Greenville, it was understood that I was not again to take up the hatchet while the trees grow and the waters run." Daniel Carter said, that when he was about eleven years old his father sent him to mill, early in the spring of 1812. Pipe and his Delawares had not as yet left Mohican Johnstown. Upon his return in the evening, he reached the Indian village a little after dark. The savages were holding a council at the council house. He stopped to witness it. He says that it was at this "pow-wow" that the "red stick," of Tecumseh was rejected by old Capt. Pipe. In 1788, both Colonel May and General Harmar spoke of the chieftain as an old man. This was twenty-four years before this date; if then he was an old man, what was he with twenty-four winters added to his age? Who then was the Captain Pipe of the war of 1812? Dr. Geo. W. Hill, the historian of Marion, Wyandot, Allen Richland and Ashland Counties, calls him Capt. Pipe Jr. and regards him as a son of Old Captain Pipe. Ebenezer Rice says that he was well acquainted with the chiefs, Armstrong's sons "and young Pipe, a son of old Capt. Pipe." In a letter addressed to Dr. Geo. W. Hill in 1873, Governor Wm. Walker, of Kansas, says "At the treaty of Maumee, held in the summer of 1817, a reservation of a township to include 'Pipestown' was made to these people. When the colonization of Indians in the west, under General Jackson's administra-

Captain Pipe

tion, went into operation, they with other Ohio tribes, ceded their domain and went west under the leadership of Captain Pipe, their surviving chief. The elder Captain Pipe could not have died as early as 1794, for he certainly was at the treaty of Greenville, when the pacification took place in the following year, and Howe, in his pictorial history, says: "The Delaware Indians had a settlement at or near Jeromeville, which they left at the beginning of the war. Their chief was Old Captain Pipe. When young he was a great warrior, and the implacable foe of the whites. He was in St. Clair's defeat, where according to his own account he distinguished himself, 'and slaughtered white men until his arm was weary with the work.' I can gather no reliable information about him from the present generation of Wyandots. The late Capt. Pipe was undoubtedly the son of the former, and the only son. He died in this country in 1839 or 1840, leaving no children. I do not think he was ever married. He was a man of fine natural abilities, good natured and genial in disposition, and popular with his people."

This, then was the Capt. Pipe of the war of 1812, the British emissary, a leader of renegade braves from other tribes. At a treaty in 1814-17, territory six miles south of Upper Sandusky was set apart as a reservation for the savages from the Indian Villages of Jerometown and Greentown, in Ashland County. The new village built there

Captain Pipe

was called "Pipetown" in honor of Capt. Pipe, Jr. who was made half-king and in conjunction with one of Armstrong's sons, presided as chief over the village. This treaty was signed in presence of Wm. Walker, then an interpreter to the Wyandots, later, Governor of Kansas. It was signed by Pipe Jr, as was the treaty of 1823. Early in the summer of 1812, Capt Douglas arrived at Jeromeville, and Greentown, with a company of militia, to remove the Indians to either Urbana, or Piqua; authorities differ. Armstrong at that time had eighty braves.

In 1778 a conference was held between Andrew and Thomas Lewis, United States Commissioners, and the Delaware chiefs, Capt. Pipe, White Eyes, Killbuck and others. Previous to this Governor Hamilton, of Detroit, had been trying to array all the Ohio tribes against the struggling colonists in their fight for liberty. The Delawares on the Cuyahoga and Tuscarawas, were of two clans, the turtle and the wolf. The turtle clan favored peace, although years before the Six Nations had dubbed them as "old women". The wolf clan being the most warlike resented the name and declared for war. It was but a short time after this conference at Fort Pitt, before the long threatened rupture between Capt Pipe and White Eyes occurred. This rupture was during the revolutionary war and not at the beginning of the war of 1812 as some historians are so fond of

Captain Pipe .

stating. Chiefs White Eyes and Netawtwees, were firm for peace, while Pipe, Half King and Wingenund declared for war. Early in 1782 Capt Pipe and Half King went from tribe to tribe, from village to village, exhorting, coaxing, threatening until the secret fastnesses in and around the Sandusky Plains, soon teemed with three thousand painted, bedecked red devils waiting for their expected prey. The old chief had not only the power of bringing out his own young men, but the Wyandots, Shawnees, Ottowas, Miamis, Mingoes and Mohegans answered to his rallying war cry.

Had Pipe been born under different conditions, from a tribe that was homogeneous, instead of one that for a century had been content to pay tribute to others and bear the name, "women," in patience; which was divided into four distinct and separate clans, owning their own chiefs, and not subservient to others: had he like Pontiac been born of a tribe who had no great chiefs, or like Tecumseh, of a tribe that thought and acted as one, to whom war was not only a business, but a pastime, he would have risen to a greater height than either of these. His name would have been blazoned high on the escutcheon of fame, and he would have stood head and shoulders above any other aboriginal war chief of North America. He had all the qualities of an Indian statesman and warrior. He was temperate and ambitious, intelligent and cunning, eloquent and persuasive, frank but discreet, skilful and dar-

Captain Pipe

ing, active and cautious, relentless and persistent, wary and vindictive, suspicious but winning. His form was the embodiment of elasticity and endurance, his eloquence would melt the stoutest warrior to tears, or send him a whooping maniac slashing his tomahawk into the painted war-post of his village.

W. A. Adams in his reminiscences, relates an anecdote that was characteristic of the man. He and his squaw took supper on one occasion with Mr. Adams' father. "Mr. Adams said—

"Captain Pipe, I notice that you do not drink whisky like other Indians."

"You are mistaken," said Pipe, "I love whisky, but refuse to drink because it sets a bad example. Among gentlemen I drink."

Mr. Adams handed the Captain a bottle and a glass, and he drank the health of all, remarking:

"We Indians have a saying which is good. It is, "Captain Whisky is a brave warrior; you fight him long enough and he is sure to get your scalp."

Capt. Pipe signed his treaties as King of New Portage. Why New? the writer has never been able to ascertain. Had there been a change in the Portage? was this really a new one? Certain early European maps give the portage at one mile; notable among these are Jeffries', Bowen and Gibson's. We only know that sometime between 1700 and 1725, the Cuyahoga cut a new channel to the lake through high hills.

Portage Path

FROM THE EARLY EUROPEAN MAP-MAKERS

POINT OF VIEW

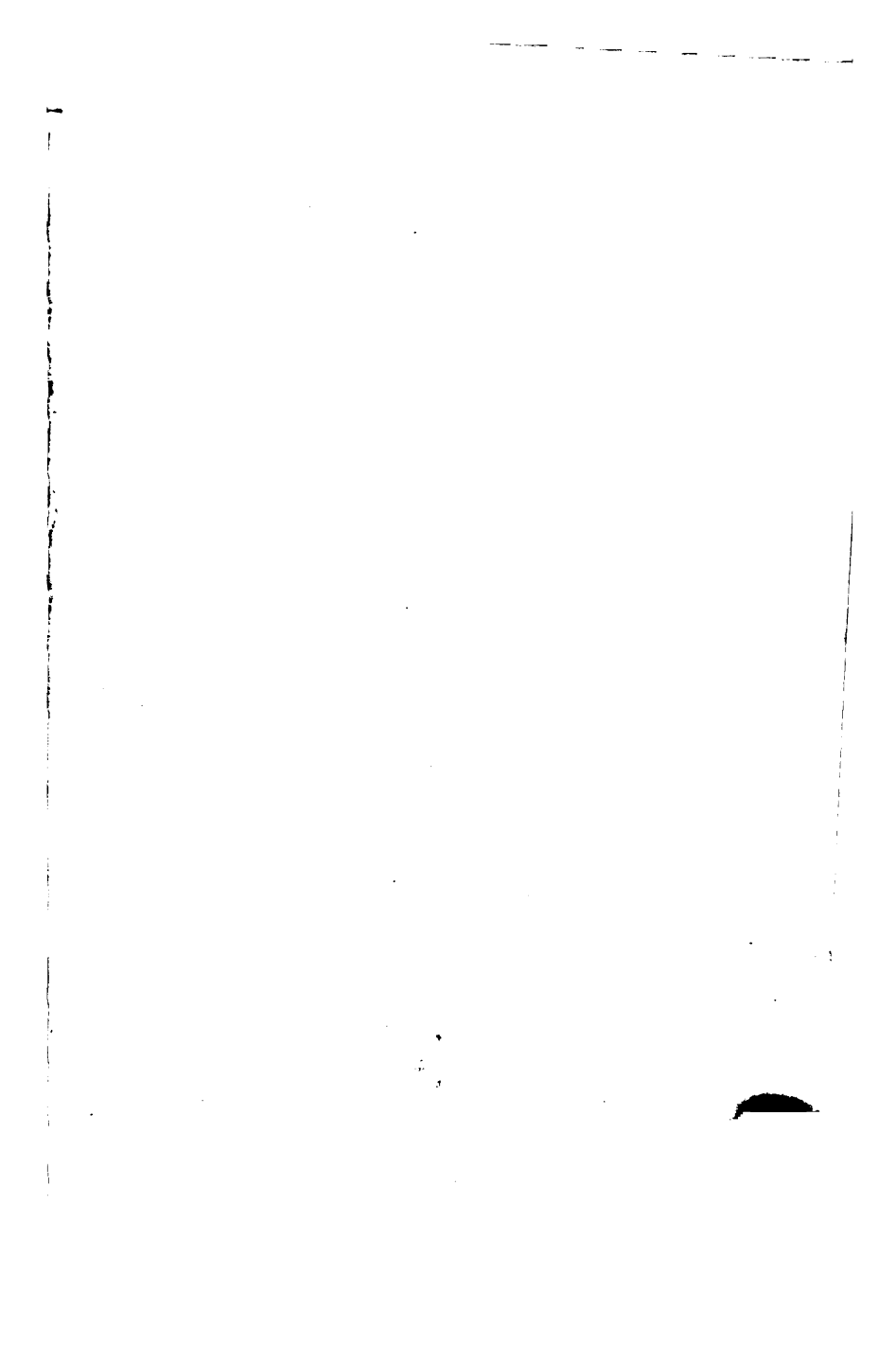
It is an undoubted fact that in the earliest of the very early times, the portage between the waters running south and north was much shorter than it has been during the last one hundred and fifty years.

Golden's map of uncertain date, showing the various portages, gives Michigan Lake, Lake of the Hurons, Lake Erie or Oksewego, and Cataraqui or Ontario. The region north of Lake Erie is given as "The country conquered by the Five Nations."

This map shows a "portage," or "carrying place" from a river running in to the west end of Lake Erie, unnamed, to the "Ouabache river," also a "carrying place" from the Cuyahoga to the Ohio river, of which the Allegheny is not a branch, but a direct continuation.

The Jeffries map, improved by I. Gibson, gives the portage between the Cuyahoga and the Muskingum at one mile.

Andrew's New Map of the American Colonies,





The Path Crossing an Old Indian Clearing

Portage Path

London, 1783, gives the Sandusky portage as nine miles, and the Portage Path as one mile.

The map from the *Amerique Septentrionale*, par Mitchel, Paris, 1777, calls the Cuyahoga, "the Canahogue," as well as the country south of it, and says, virtually, that the country for 35 miles south of Lake Erie was devoted to the war of the "Five Nations" and afterwards became their hunting grounds.

Bowen and Gibson's map of North America, London, 1763, also gives the valley of the Cuyahoga as the hunting grounds of the "Six Nations."

Hutchinson's map, 1764, also gives the length of the "Portage Path" as one mile.

As Long Lake and Summit Lake were originally one lake, reaching nearly to the center of Akron, it is possible that at one time, previous to the knowledge of the whites, the Portage Path was really but one mile in length.

What the Original Surveyors of 1796 Had to Say of the Portage Path and Its Vicinity

To Richard M. Stoddard:

You will proceed up the river to our headquarters, though I am at a loss at present where it will be fixed, but you may take the line between the 10th and 11th ranges, (the line between Coventry and Springfield) and I will give you notice on that, at the nearest corner. (Corner Portage and Tallmadge.) We shall go as far as possible with our boats. If I have an opportunity I will send a line here, after we have fixed our headquarters. If you should not arrive here (Cleveland) so as to be there in about thirty days from this date, I think you had better not go up the river, unless you receive another line from your humble servant.

Seth Pease

Saturday June 10—Shepard and Warren's parties took their departure about 10:30 a. m. Spafford's and my party moved up the river about 4 p. m. Got near Warren's line, and camped on the west bank. Left a frying pan.

Mr. Joe Tinker—I wish you to return and

Original Surveyors

bring another boat load of stores as soon as possible. You will take four hands, and have such men return as are best pleased with the business of boating. I wish you a prosperous voyage.

Seth Pease

Mr. David Beard, Sir—The surveyors have this day taken to the bush. We intend to build a store house up the river. I wish you and those men who come with the boat, and are not to return with Mr. Tinker, to report to the headquarters and take charge of the stores * * * you will take a boat up the river, with three barrels of flour and two of pork, some chests etc., which Mr. Hart will show you.

Seth Pease

Sunday, June 11—Ran a little beyond my line and camped for the night on the east bank. Saturday, June 17, Mr. Beard took charge of one boat, and myself the other, and proceeded up the river about a mile above where the stream from the south (Little Cuyahoga) comes into the head of boat navigation.

Sunday, 18th—After landing our stores we took one boat and all hands went down to Morley's (on the line between Boston and Northfield) in just three hours.

Monday, July 17th — Started from upper-headquarters (near Akron) at 1 p. m. to continue the second parallel, and meet Mr. Pease from the south (Pease was coming on the south line of the Reserve, the 41st meridian, to the Tuscarawas)

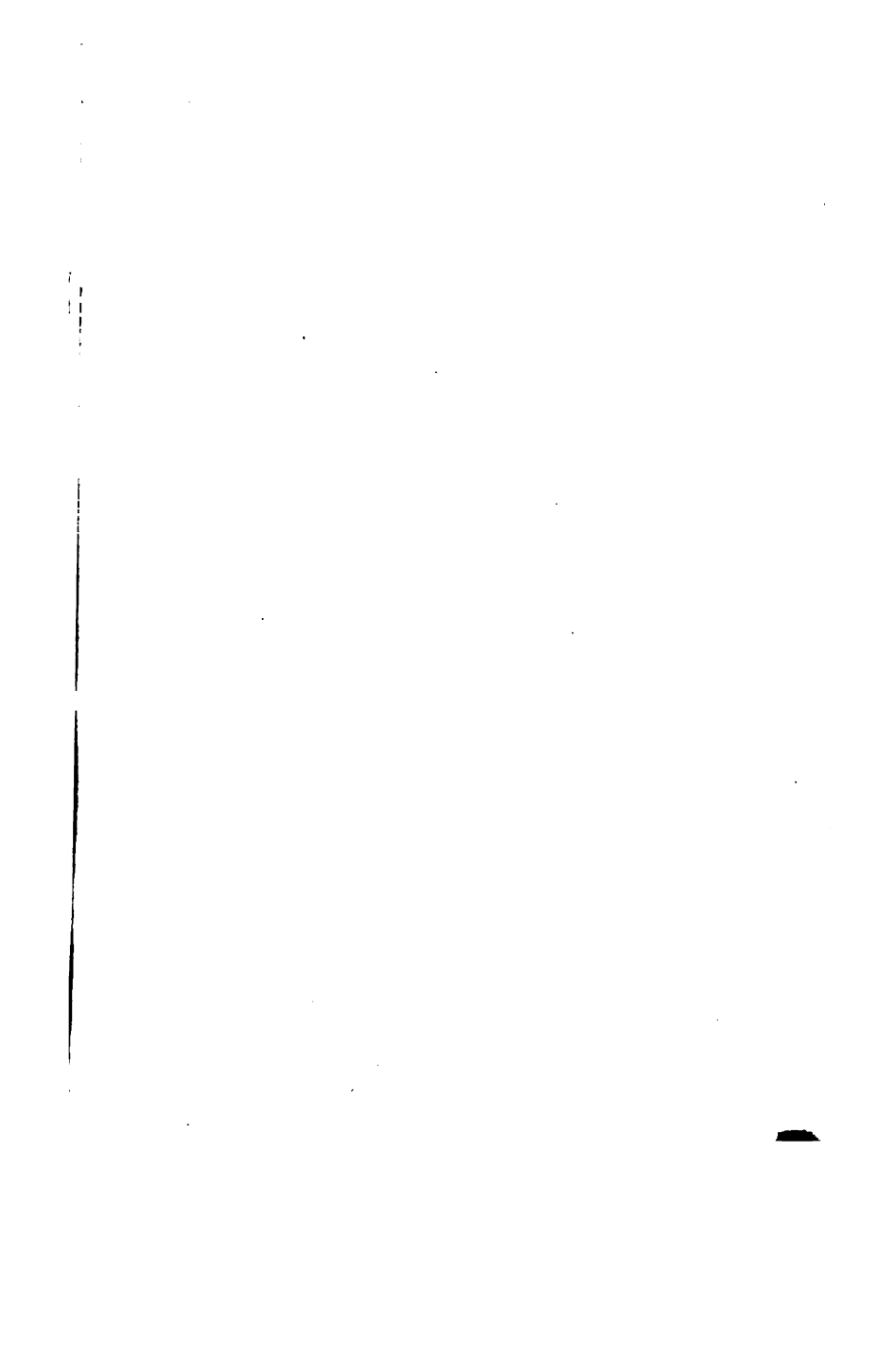
Original Surveyors

Began at a post I set on the 10th meridian (now Cuyahoga Falls) on the 30th of June. Ran west between towns 2 and 3, Range 11, (line between Portage and Northampton.)

July 18,—River fog prevented an observation of the polar star. Struck the right bank of the Cuyahoga river at three miles, 45 links 13 chains and 98 links from the Portage Tree, in which I traversed in three courses the last crossing the river. I then traversed the Portage Path to course number 23, and encamped on a run on course number 7; sent Barker back after crossing the river.

July 19 and 20—Continued the traverse to Tuscarawas landing (south end of Portage Path) at course 74. At number 72 is a large white oak, marked with many hieroglyphics. (Near the present center of Coventry, in fact in Mr. Marsh's door yard. The trail runs through one corner of his residence.) In this vicinity are many Indian camps. The traverse from the second parallel by the Portage Path is 658.53, length of the Portage 644.55 chains.

July 21—Continued a traverse down the river, from which I was allured by Mr. Pease's pack-horse man who sounded the Indian whoop and being answered refused to reply as we neared him. (Mr. Pease had run the south line of the Western Reserve, from a point 20 miles west of the Pennsylvania line, to the Tuscarawas river in





Upper Headquarters of the Original Surveyors, 1796-97

Original Surveyors

18 days.) Mr. Pease connected the traverse with mine at number 66, forty-five chains southwest of the landing. Returned to the upper headquarters, (near Akron,) with Mr. Pease and party in the evening. Except the Cuyahoga hill, (north end of Portage Path,) the Portage will admit of an excellent road and that is not so formidable as the one at Queenstown, Upper Canada."

Thus ends Moses Warren.

Amzi Atwater states:— "After a few days preparation, the two boats with some of the surveyors started up the river with the assistants and provisions. I with one or two other men was sent to get the horses up above the mouth of Tinker's Creek for the use of the surveyors. Not far above the creek we found the remnants of some old huts, partly overgrown with thorn and plum trees. One or more fragments of doors were fastened with nails which to me was a curiosity to see in such a place. I suppose they were the remains of the old Moravian settlement. We found the boats and gave up our horses."

"We succeeded in getting the boats past Old Portage, and about a half a mile above the south branch of the Cuyahoga, where we established a camp. I was left there in charge of the provisions and stores, while some of the surveyors run lines to the Pennsylvania line, and others back. I erected a shed covered with bark to cover the provisions, etc., and a tolerably good camp for

Original Surveyors

myself. The surveying parties were frequently coming and going and once in a while the boats came up, some sick, others well."

"While there two or more Indian hunters were camped some distance near the river, below us; one of them frequently visited us. He was more active and more talkative than Indians in general."

Sunday, Aug. 27—The committee concluded to have Esquire Warren go up the Portage Path and explore there and some towns on the river.

Portage Path The Western Boundary of the United States until 1805

Colonel Chas. Whittlesey, the President of the Northern Ohio and Western Reserve Historical Society, a former Summit county boy, the best historian the Western Reserve ever had, and a man whose word was looked upon as authoritative, said:—

“When Governor St Clair erected the county of Washington, Ohio, in 1778, it embraced the Western Reserve, east of the Cuyahoga. West of this river, the Portage Path, and the Tuscarawas was then held by the Indians and the British.”

The ordinance of 1787, “Ohio’s Charter of Liberty,” the last act of the “Old Congress,” says:—

“The utmost good faith shall always be observed towards the Indians; their lands and property shall never be taken from them without their consent.” The same act of Congress says:—

“The navigable waters leading into the Mississippi and St. Lawrence, *and the carrying places between the same, shall be common highways and FOREVER FREE.*”

Colonel Chas. Whittlesey has stated:—

“When she (Connecticut) sold to the Con-

The Western Boundary

necticut Land Company, in 1795, both parties imagined that the deed of Connecticut conveyed powers of civil government to the company, and that the grantees might organize a new state."

This question, was not settled until 1801, and then, by act of Congress. The residents of that portion of the Western Reserve east of the Cuyahoga river and Portage Path, petitioned the Congress of the United States to receive them into the union of the states and territories, and for civil and jurisdictional purposes to annex them to the "Northwestern Territory." This was granted by act of Congress in 1801, but on April 30, 1802, Congress passed an act enabling Ohio to form a state government.

A treaty was concluded at Fort McIntosh, January 21, 1785, with the Wyandot, Delaware, Chippewa and Ottawa nations, by which the boundary line between the United States and the Indian nations was declared to begin:—

"At the mouth of the river Cuyahoga, and to extend up said river to the Portage between that and the Tuscarawas branch of the Muskingum, thence down that branch etc." This was made by the United States, and confirmed by the acts of her Congress, and all citizens of the United States, under heavy penalties were prohibited from settling on land west of this line.

The western boundary line of the United States had been previously fixed by the treaty of





A Quiet Stretch on the Cuyahoga

The Western Boundary

Fort Stanwix, October 27, 1784, at the Ohio River. The English Parliament, ten years earlier had passed an act making the Ohio River her south western boundary. The claim of the English monarch to the northwestern territory was false, and he knew it, but under extreme pressure he ceded it to the United States at the treaty of Paris, Sept. 3d 1783. The treaty of Fort Stanwix followed the succeeding year, making the boundary line the Ohio river. The succeeding year, 1785, brought the McIntosh treaty, establishing the western boundary line at Portage Path and Cuyahoga Valley. This was confirmed by the "Old Congress" the same year, and was reaffirmed by the same great authority in Ohio's Charter of Freedom, the Ordinance of 1787, when it says:—"Their lands and property (the Indians') shall never be taken away from them with-out their consent."

The western boundary, thus established at the treaty of Fort McIntosh in 1785, was subsequently confirmed by the treaties of Fort Finney, 1786, and Fort Harmar, 1789, all of which were accepted and confirmed by the Congress of the United States.

The claim of Connecticut was adjudicated twice. First, by a Royal Commission in 1664, between the Colony and the Duke of York, and again, by a commission appointed by the Congress of the United States in 1782.

Connecticut and the land company, Congress

The Western Boundary

and her authorized officers, the surveyors of 1796, and men of all classes, and in every walk of life, accepted the Portage Path as the boundary between the United States and the wild nations of the western continent.

The Western Reserve east of Portage Path, was four times the subject of treaty by the United States of America, and was three times paid for in government funds.

There is no question or doubt that the Portage Path was the western boundary of the United States for twenty years.

It took England two years to "falsify the returns," and quit claim to this country that they did not own in fee simple. France transferred her rights to England except her southern possessions. England transferred her rights south of a certain line to this country. England quit-claimed only her rights beyond the Ohio. She had no civil rights and but very dubious political ones. The soil beyond the Ohio was held in fee simple by the various Indian nations; they owned all the civil and political rights, it was hereditary, they were indigenous to the soil, the native lords to the manor born; their lands could be obtained only by conquest, by purchase, or by treaty.

There were no Indian reservations in those days. The Indian did not need them. The Indian did the reserving himself, and counted his

The Western Boundary

many scalps which hung drying amidst the smoke of his own rude lodge.

For centuries the Portage Path was one of the greatest "carrying places,, in the "Ohio Country."

The giant Eries were indigenous to the soil. They held the southern shore of Lake Erie from Sandusky to Redstone Old Fort in Pennsylvania. They were the makers of aboriginal history, and held the "Five Nations" at bay until the latter part of the 17th century. Their favorite rivers were the Cuyahoga and Rocky. Over these they spread a half-barbarian civilization. What scenes of pomp and splendor were here? I am proud to be a citizen of a locality where so much has been accomplished, not only in ancient, but in modern times.

The history of England's claiming to own territory west of the Ohio is somewhat complex and is built upon a tissue of lies. It was made by Sir Wm. Johnson, her somewhat famous Indian agent for her North American possessions. A bigger grafter never lived. He was a man who had much to conceal and he rendered England's position more complicated by assuring her Lords of Trade that England laid claim to lands as far west as the Mississippi, by reason of the conquest by his auxiliaries, the Iroquois.

The facts in the case are, that De Monts, the father of Canada, had incurred the undying hatred of the "Five Nations", who first threw their influ-

The Western Boundary

ence with the Dutch, and afterwards, with the English. Johnson had just stolen some 40,000 acres of good land and some one had to get busy in order to direct attention in other directions; so the Five Nations were sent out against the Miamis and Shawnees whom they drove beyond the Mississippi, thus establishing a claim to the soil which was but short lived, as we shall hereinafter show. The first man and antiquarian who objected to the statement of Johnson was General William Henry Harrison, who took issue with him and in an address before the Historical Society of Ohio, in 1839. After reviewing the whole mass of proof in an extremely impartial manner, he said that "Without any reasonable doubt, the pretensions of the Five Nations to a conquest of the country from the Scioto to the Mississippi are entirely groundless." Since his time, historical documents in plenty have come to hand showing that not satisfied with their former foray, they attacked Starved Rock, on which at that time was perched Fort St Louis, and were repulsed with a heavy loss. The various Illinois tribes assisted by the Miamis, Ottawas, Shawnees and Pottawatomies, drove them out of the Ohio Valley, never more to return as conquerors, bent on conquest, as they never made an effort to recover the territory from which they were driven in defeat in 1684. So much for Great Britain's claim to any territory west of the Alleghanies, and this was the claim

The Western Boundary

ceded to the United States at the treaty of Paris in 1783, ninety-nine years later.

At the treaty of Paris, Count D' Aranda, a grandee of Spain, appeared, on the part of that kingdom, before the commissioners appointed by England and the United States, and made strenuous objections to our commissioners demanding that the boundary line be fixed at the Mississippi. He claimed the country west of a certain line passing through Ohio, as territory held by Spanish arms. In this, Spain did not stand alone, for France was with them in their demands. England hesitated and wavered, finally refusing to sign and retiring upon her dignity. Another year passed by without any result; then England agreed to make the Ohio river the western boundary. Spain and France demanded a diagonal line which was to commence at the mouth of the Great Kanawha river, and to run northwesterly to the west end of Lake Erie. This line was to run just west of the present Ohio counties of Huron and Erie, and commenced 263 miles, river measurement, below Pittsburg. To this Mr. Adams objected, demanding that the line be made where asked for by the American commissioners. Lo was not heard from, he was too lowly and feeble to be admitted to the great council of mighty nations; he had been robbed by all, and his remaining possessions were to be wrested from him without his knowledge or consent. Mr. Adams fought so strenuously and persistently for his line

The Western Boundary

that after the second year had gone by England slowly and reluctantly conveyed land she did not own, and which she knew she did not own. With the exception of fixing the western boundary the treaty had been ready to sign since early in 1782.

No man, no corporation, no country, can cede land legally which does not belong to him or them. The land in question belonged to the poor Indian in fee simple, and could never be wrested from him except by might or purchase. Neither of these conditions had England ever met; nor had she ever undertaken any civil or jurisdictional rights in the territory.

The poor Indian employed no lawyer with his moral sense of right and wrong blunted because he was more often called upon to defend wrong than right, and was always ready to sell to the highest bidder. Lo was no linguist, and did not understand the verbiage of the English language, and in signing treaties knew not what he was signing, except the lines of the land he was conveying and the compensation he was to receive. All other conditions and provisos to him were null and void, and would not stand in any court of this or any other civilized land in which graft did not enter as a factor.

The whole history of the various treaties of the United States with the natives of the soil has been but the history of wrong, avarice, graft, de-

The Western Boundary

ceit and fraud. If the Indian did not like it he could repudiate—and he did.

But the everlasting infamy of governmental effort in this direction has resulted in staining the escutcheon of American Liberty a deeper dye.

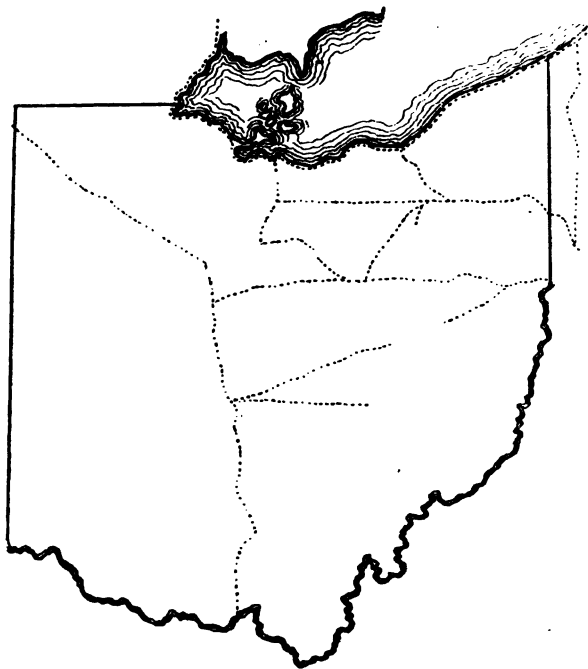
Portage Path

THE CENTER OF INDIAN COMMUNICATION

Long before Lake Erie was located on the map of the world, or the La Belle Riviere known to the geographers of Europe, many decades before the Argonauts of civilization had penetrated westward beyond the St Lawrence, great aboriginal highways existed connecting the distant waters of the large lakes with the great salt sea, and with the mighty Mississippi, the father of all living rivers on the wild American continent.

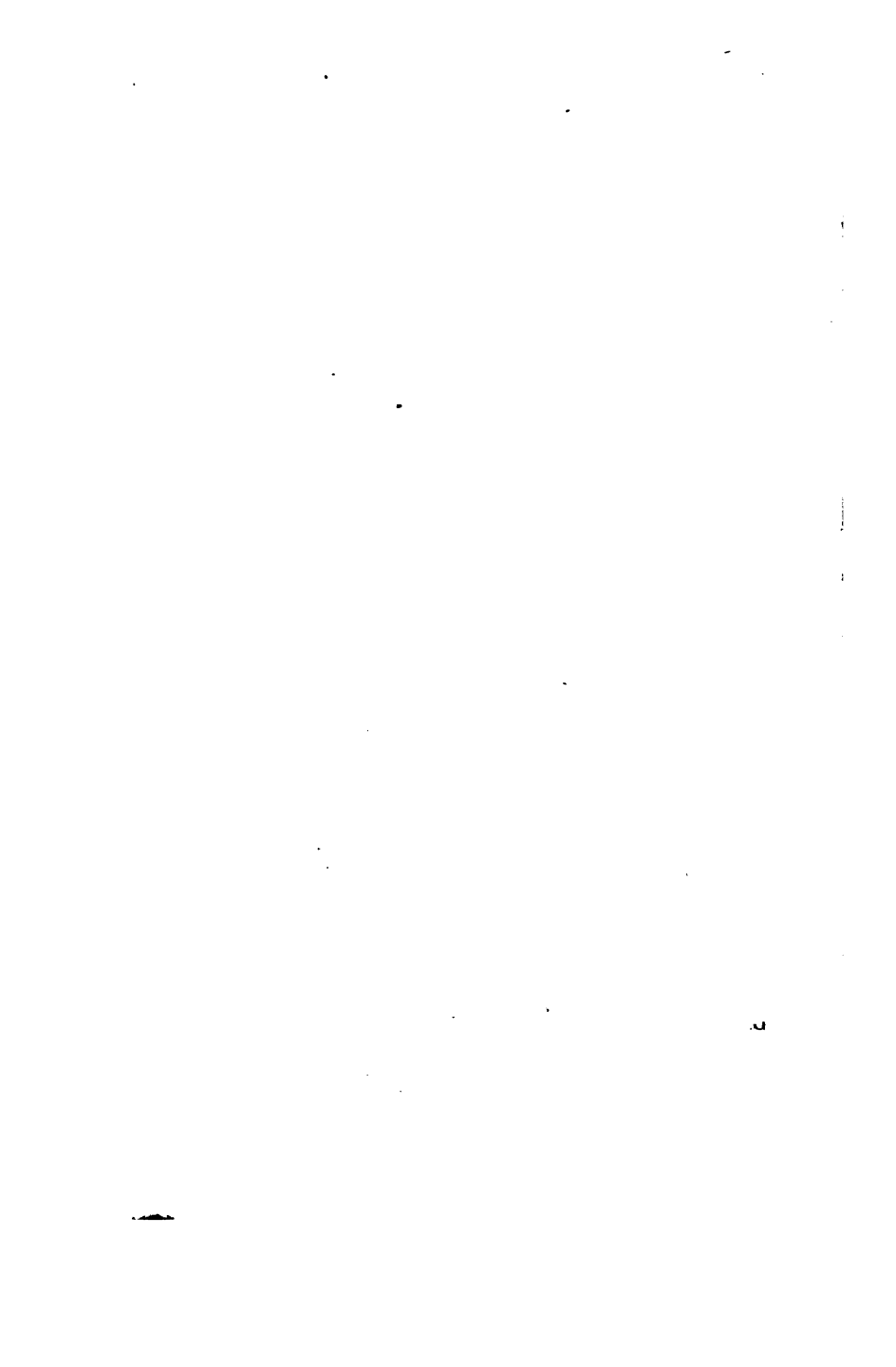
Journey with us to that distant, forest-clad land, and pass over with us some of these ancient trails that push their winding, tortuous way by the banks of sedgy lakes, across wide and swift rivers, or else following the early conformation of the shore line of the immense fresh water lakes, or striking out into the heart of the wilderness for hundreds of miles, turning, twisting but ever moving forward to a known objective point, without loss of time.

These were the highways of that restless, adventurous, migratory race or races which held the country by virtue of original possession. Along



The Center of Indian Communication





Indian Communication

these routes they came with swift and tireless feet, bent, either upon the delights of the chase, or upon the much-to-be-desired war of the race. War brought distinction, made mighty chiefs, furnished an exercise for their naturally cruel instincts, brought plunder and pelf and profit; abounded in change of scene, exciting episodes and startling features. Its climaxes were not always pleasant or desirable, but they were accepted with the stoic philosophy of the red man as the fortune of war.

Along these lengthening trails came and went these feather-bedecked, sinister-painted, wild men of the forest. Swiftly, surely, without noise or bluster, these hyenas of the wilderness sped on their way of destruction.

The first intimation the unsuspecting whites had of their presence was the ringing war-whoop, the midnight attack, the burning cabin, the shrieks of childish terror, or the wail of female despair. The gride of the hatchet, the echoing scalp-yell, the crack of the rifle, the shout of defiance, were swift and fleeting episodes of the great drama enacted throughout the length and breadth of the whole, wild, western border-land. The isolated hamlet, or the lonely cabin home despoiled, the lust of blood glutted, and hampered with prisoners, or else laden with plunder, they made their way back to secure retreats among forest-embowered and distant valleys. Leaving no trail on these hard-beat-

Indian Communication

en, compact roadways, the forest closed upon them and—they were gone.

“One-half the terror inspired by these sudden forays was due to the fact of the mystery, the silence, and the utter impossibility of retaliation or reprisal. The aboriginal forests opened and—they came. They opened and—they were gone.” Mystic fear and horror brooded ever on the early steps of the pioneer who dared to assail the virgin forests of the west, and endeavor to carve from out its mysterious silence, a wilderness home.

It has been a wonder to the engineers of the modern world to know how a people who were apparently deficient of engineering skill could go so straightly and surely to a given point throughout a country fissured with ravines, dotted with fresh water lakes, broken with swamps, traversed by mighty rivers, streams and rivulets, and the whole covered with a dense, heavy, primeval forest growth.

They have wondered why the early roadways of the whites, and the railroads of today generally follow ancient Indian trails.

They have wondered how these “lords to the manor born” always knew the best springs, the safest fords, the driest and most lovely camping grounds, and the securest retreats. But this was a part of their woodcraft, a matter of hereditary instinct as well as of daily practice.

As a matter of policy the Indian ceded to the

Indian Communication

British in 1701 the country within the following described limits, old English spelling and all; "a tract of land lying between the great lake Ottowawa and the lake called by the natives Sahiquage, and by the Christians Swege, and runns till it butts upon the Twichtwicks, and is bounded by a place called Quadoge, conteigning in length about Eight Hundred miles and in bredth Four Hundred miles including the country where the Bevers, the deers and Elks keep."

It is in this section that we propose to relocate these devious, ancient roadways of a great system. Quadoge means Chicago, or the head of Lake Michigan: Lake Ottowawa is Lake Huron, while the lake "called by the natives Sahiquage, and by the Christians Swege," is Lake Erie.

It is true that the British authorities never laid much stress upon this cession of territory, and the Indians ever after claimed it. The purpose for which the treaty was made, was to gain a title to the territory in order to prevent the French from absorbing the whole of it for the King of France. The French, however, regarded it as *fait accompli*.

"The countless pads of innumerable feet had worn the soil of the forest over which ran these wildwood trails, through centuries of war and chase, into the semblance of hard-packed, well-worn roadways, that had a fascination all their own. The narrow tracks winding among the

Indian Communication

forest trees and curving between sloping hillsides, stretched away into the unknown heart of the new world. When settlers came they still wound their way, the strangest of all roads, in some places a foot broad and thousands of miles in length, cut in places, a foot below the surrounding surface by restless feet. In other words it widened and broadened into a noble highway. These great national highways for the Indian nations have been described as "beginning nowhere and ending in the same place." "This may be true in a certain sense, as they so intermingled and ran into another, crossed and re-crossed each other, that to a white man they seemed but threads of a devious maze, whose tangled ends could not be found by mathematical calculation; yet they were the first faint harbingers of a coming civilization a civilization that was to astonish the world with its virile force, and as such possess a charm that is hard to analyze or express." The better known of these ancient highways, such as "Nemacolin's Path," or the old "Bay Path," have been made famous in song and story. Alice Morse Earle has written: "I feel deeply the inexplicable charm which attaches itself to these old paths or trails. I have ridden hundreds of miles on these various Indian paths and I ever love to trace the roadway where it is now the broad traveled road, and where it turns aside in an overgrown and narrow lane which is to-day almost as

Indian Communication

neglected and wild as the old path. There seems to cling to it something of the human interest ever found in a foot-path across a pasture, or up a wooded hill, full of charm, suggestion, of sentiment." Holland has also written of this subject with loving touch when he said: "The path led through the woods which bore the marks of centuries, over barren hills that had been licked by the Indian's hounds of fire, and along the banks of streams that the seine had never dragged." Hulbert has written: "To one whose imagination is grounded in the annals of those early days, a walk on one of the old time thoroughfares is a glimpse backward which for wildness and meaning will prove of more inspiration than a year spent in our museums. The story of these various highways, their building and their fortune, is the story of the people who have and who do now inhabit the land. The study of them is an important story, it has already been too long neglected. Every road has a story and the burden of every story is a need. The greater a need, the better the story and the longer and more important the road."

The Great National Highway for the Indian nations of the northern part of the country commenced at Detroit and followed down the western bank of that river until it struck the body of water variously known under the cryptic names of the secretive Indian, and the no less secretive early white explorer, as Lake Sahiquage, and Lake

Indian Communication

Swege, as well as the lake of the Cat as used by the native, and as Lake Oswego, and finally as Lac Erius of the early French, until it became crystalized by common use into its present name of Lake Erie; so named no doubt from that mystic band of savage warriors who so long held the country lying south of the shores of the great lake against their brethren to the east and north. Following the shore line of the western end of this lake, it came rounding along until it struck the Miami of the lakes, now designated as the Maumee. Crossing this stream it bore to the southeast, closely following the shore line, where practicable, until it reached in the neighborhood of Sandusky Bay, when turning nearly south, it crossed the Sandusky River, and rounded the head of the bay, there-after again following the shore line eastward. This was an important point. Here opened a water highway for canoe travel, which reached by the way of Lake Erie, to the Atlantic seaboard, via Buffalo Creek, and around the portage at Niagara. Here too, was the objective point of one of the "Ohio country's" carrying places on the "Gulf to the Great Lakes," route. Here too ended the Pittsburg and Sandusky southern trail, as well as the Fort McIntosh and Sandusky central trail. Sandusky was one of the points at which all trails centered; from thence running to various parts in the present state of Ohio.

Indian Communication

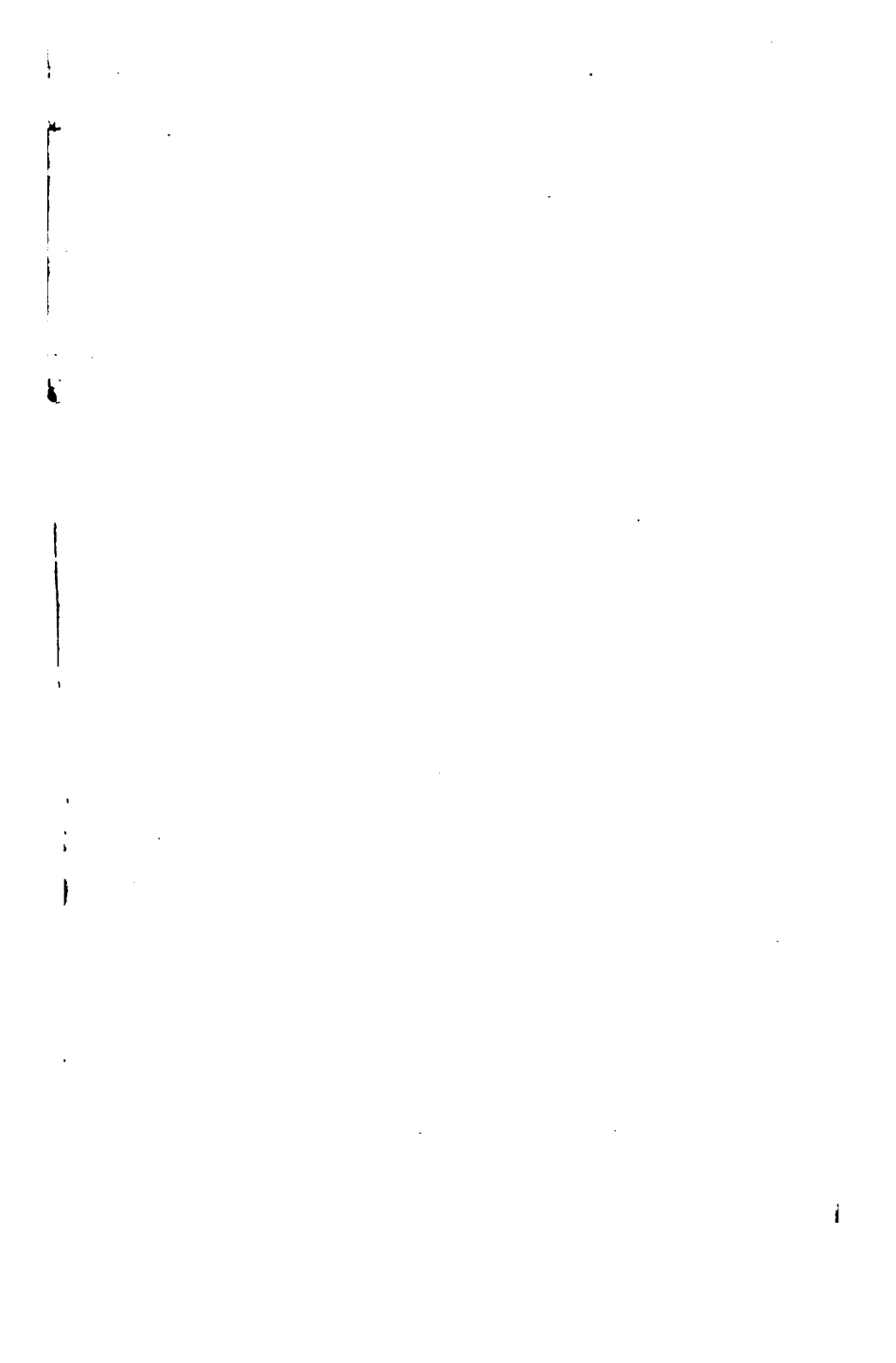
It is not the province of this article to follow the course of all these trails, but only such as were the great highways of travel between the east and west, north and south. The Lake Shore Trail continued eastwardly from Sandusky but was little traveled until Presque Isle was reached, on account of the numerous rivers entering the lake between these points. Six large streams flowed into the lake between Sandusky and the present site of Cleveland. Nine large streams entered the lake from the south between the mouth of the Cuyahoga and Presque Isle. The trail followed the curving lines of the lake shore until it reached the mouth of Rocky River, to-day some six miles west of Cleveland. It was at this point that the flotilla of Gen. Bradstreet, with his 300 boats and twelve hundred men came to an untimely and disastrous end. Driven by a furious lake storm they here sought a port and were driven on the high, precipitous rocks of the shore line. That terrible night of 1764 has written its bloody record in the vicinity, and to this day the waves of the great lake yet throw up sad memorials of that expedition. The few wretched survivors were obliged to follow the winding Indian lake shore trail to Niagara, where they arrived in a starved and quite exhausted condition.

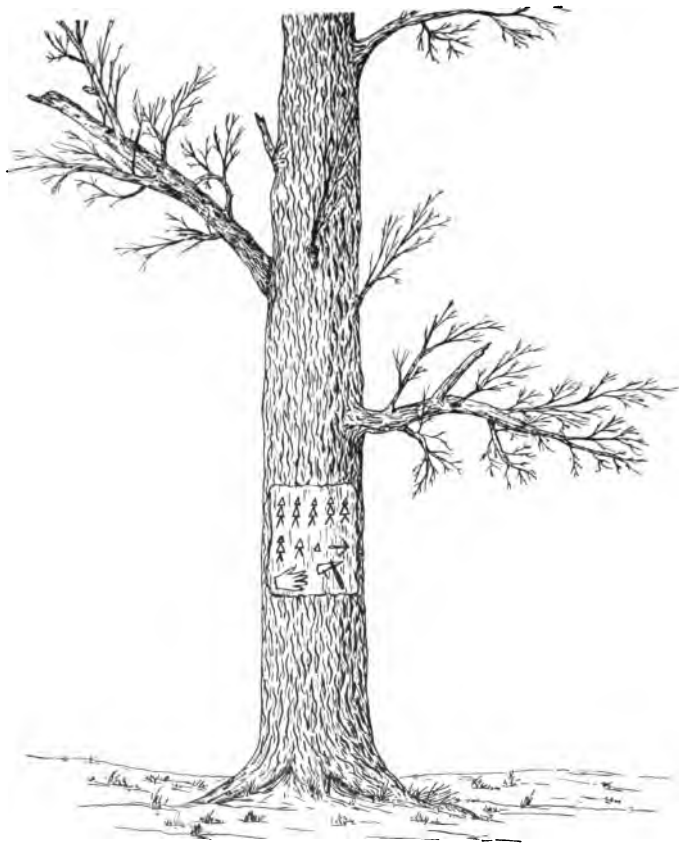
From here the trail continued eastward, following the shore line, and crossed the mouth of the Cuyahoga, where for many years the aborigi-

Indian Communication

nes maintained a ferry for their convenience. It was at this point the French held a treaty with the Indian tribes in 1684. If we are to believe his geographer, Joliet came to this point. Then came La Salle in 1679, making his way down the Cuyahoga to the Muskingum, as the shortest, the driest and most solid portage on the "Gulf to the Great Lakes" which was located at the end of canoe navigation on this river. Here came Major Rogers and 300 British soldiers in 1760, and here, and at that time, Pontiac, the fire-brand of the west, first came prominently before the American people. This same year came Geo. Croghan, the lieutenant of the British, Indian agent for the British colonies of North America, and in the succeeding year here came his superior, Sir Wm. Johnson. Continuing, the trail led to the lake shore to Conneaut Creek, where came Moses Cleaveland with his 51 surveyors and employees in 1796. It was here they built their "castle", and it was here that the 4th of July was celebrated on Ohio soil for the first time. These rivers all had sand bars just outside their mouths on which crossing could be made in quiet weather.

From this point the trail kept on to Presque Isle, now Erie, Pa. On the bay at this place the French had in the seventeenth century built a fort of "squared chestnut logs." This certainly was unique as it is the only one on record. Fifteen miles south of this place, on Lake Petite, the





Pictured Tree on Path

Indian Communication

source of the "Riverie Aux Bœufs," lay Fort La Bœuf, built at a much earlier period than history has given credit for. It was here in 1753, came George Washington and Christopher Gist, and as he remained several days he may have visited the Lake Shore trail. From this point the trail continued to Buffalo Creek, and Niagara the scene of one of the earliest and most sanguinary of tribal battles; from here it passed over the Iroquois, or Mohawk Valley trail, as it has been variously called, down the Mohawk and Hudson valleys, taking to the watershed dividing the waters between the lake and those flowing, into the Ohio or its tributaries.

Radiating from Sandusky, one of the greatest historical points in aboriginal times, were two great east and west highways which led to Fort Pitt. These trails followed the same path after leaving this point, running nearly south for thirty miles, closely following the Huron River, and crossing it twice. At this point lay the army of Gen. Perkins in the war of 1812. The trail divided at the remains of an old Ottawa fort, erected in 1704. The northern branch, called the central or Mahoning trail by the natives, and the Sandusky and Fort McIntosh, or Sandusky and Fort Pitt, or Fort Pitt and Detroit trail by the whites, was the most direct, the shortest by 40 miles, and the driest of all east and west trails, as it followed closely the watershed of northern Ohio and had

Indian Communication

but two rivers to cross—the Cuyahoga and Mahoning, and it was plentifully sprinkled with living springs of soft, pure water. It ran eastward until it crossed the Cuyahoga at Portage Path. At this point was the Indian Cuyahoga town. Here, during the war of 1812, lay an army of occupation under General Wadsworth, the watch-dog of northern Ohio. By his instructions a military road was finished from the Cuyahoga westward, along the trail just mentioned.

Over this road all provisions, munitions of war, ordnance and stores designed for the western forts, and the army of Gen. Harrison, were transported. It cost \$100 per barrel for flour and \$1,000.00 per cannon to move them to the forks of the Maumee. These stores came from the mouth of the Cuyahoga, or the present site of Cleveland, then a village of less than 150 inhabitants. The stores were loaded upon narrow flat-boats propelled by oars to the "Upper Headquarters," as Gen. Wadsworth's camp was then called. Here during the war hundreds of teams loaded and unloaded each day, so great was the river traffic, the lake then being held by British war ships. The surveyors who platted the eastern half of Western Reserve in 1796-7, had their headquarters, near here, and they too called it "Upper Headquarters." To this point came the murderous Chief George and his band of bloody cut-throats, only waiting for favorable news from Tippecanoe before precipitating themselves upon

Indian Communication

the defenceless and scattered settlements of northern Ohio. Over this trail came the heroic Geo. Croghan and his gallant defenders of the immortal Fort Stephenson: And last, and it may be least, General Lafayette passed over it on his return to America.

Crossing the river, the trail bore slightly north of east, to the fall of Hopacon. Here, on either bank were located Indian villages. It was here, so far as is known, that the first white female captives were held prisoners within the present limits of the Western Reserve. From this point the trail led on to "Big Spring", now within the limits of Cuyahoga Falls. Near here Capt Brady's men were ambushed and routed, taking the back trail for Fort Pitt at double quick. The trail continued in the same eastwardly direction and passed Silver Lake where two more Indian villages were situated, and then ran directly for Standing Stone, now Kent, the site chosen for the State Normal School. It was at this point that Brady made his celebrated leap. This point was named by the Indians from the fact that a rugged, lonely, solitary column of rock stood in the center of the Cuyahoga River, on the summit of which grew a single, ragged pine. Before reaching this point, at Fish Creek, the trail divided, one branch running northwest to the Mingo, Ottawa and Seneca villages on the upper Cuyahoga; it crossed to west side of the Cuyahoga at Tinker's Creek, some 14

Indian Communication

miles north of its southern crossing, where were the remains of an ancient Indian village and of the old Moravian settlements. Thence it continued down the west bank until the mouth of the river was reached. Over this trail in 1787, came immense pack trains loaded with flour from Pittsburg to the British garrisons at Detroit and to the west. The flour was taken at the mouth of the Cuyahoga by the military schooner "Mackinaw" to its destination. These pack trains were in charge of Col. Hillman, who afterwards settled in the Reserve. Ninety to 120 horses and ten drivers usually composed the train. After leaving Fish Creek, one mile east of Stow Corners, the combined trails crossed Break-Neck Creek, and on up its valley, crossing the "Summit" near Ravenna, it passed the "Salt Springs" of the Mahoning, and crossed this river three miles above Youngstown, then Mahoning Town, and kept down the north bank to its Junction with the Beaver River; thence down that stream to the present site of Beaver, on the south side of the Mahoning, where the Shenango River forms a junction with that stream, was the Indian Kithknike Town. From here a trail led to Beaver, on the south side of the river, and another ran north-east through the Indian towns of Shamingo and Pemptuing, and led to Fort Venango.

At Beaver, the Presque Isle trail, the Central, the Southern, the Scioto, the Kithknike trails all

Indian Communication

joined, forming one trail into Pittsburg, commencing across the river at Fort McIntosh.

The Central trail crossing the commencement of Portage Path, was fully 40 miles shorter than any other east and west trail between Pittsburg, Sandusky and Detroit. It was drier, better, safer, and well watered by living springs. It ran nearly all the distance along the high ground of the watershed. The townships along the eastern half of this route were settled in the eighteenth century, but for 20 years thereafter bands of Indians passed along this path. The early whites found pictured trees, and huge cairns of stones along this aboriginal roadway.

The Southern trail, after it left the old Ottawa fort on the Huron, ran southeast, crossing the Walhonding river, then known as the White Woman's river, from the white woman who lived at White Woman's town, on White Woman's river. It passed through Mohican John's town, and after leaving this place the trail bent slightly north of east for about 20 miles, passing through the Delaware villages of Ashland County, the beautiful village of Greentown, the sad scene of white man's perfidy and dishonor; and the notorious and oft quoted "Hell Town," and on, until it crossed the Little Muskingum river, now called the Tuscarawas, at its Junction with the Big Sandy. Thus it passed through the unfortunate Moravian towns, the scene of Ohio's deepest, darkest, and bloodiest

Indian Communication

shame. It was here the first sermon was preached by a white man in the Northwestern territory, where the first white child was born, and where the first church bell rang out its summons to a sin-laden world.

From here the trail either went directly to, or branched, to the Indian towns of Beaver, Tuscarora, Killbucks town, and from here it bore, first southeast, then northeast, passing through Shingoes town and crossing, Yellow Creek at whose mouth Logan lost all his relatives through the inhuman cruelty of the Indian hunters of the upper Ohio: swept on and crossed the Beaver and reached the Ohio opposite Fort McIntosh, the Beaver, Pa., of to-day. This southern trail was some forty miles longer than the more northern route, and was more traveled and better known as it reached many important Indian towns on the Tuscarawas and upper Muskingum, the Mohican and Walhonding.

After crossing Yellow Creek, this path made a junction with the great Fort Pitt and Scioto trail; both from this point making a single trail to Fort Pitt, via Fort McIntosh. From the Yellow Creek junction the Scioto trail bore directly southwest, crossing the Walhonding at New Town and striking the Scioto at upper Shawnee town, a distance of 190 miles from Fort McIntosh. On this route, on the west bank of the Tuscarawas, a short distance below the junction of the Big Sandy with this

Indian Communication

stream, was built the first parapet and stockade fort ever erected within the present limits of the State of Ohio. This was Fort Lawrens, and its designer and builder was General Lachlin McIntosh, the commander of the Western Military Department. He will be remembered as killing the Hon. Button Gwinnet, in a duel fought in 1777. Gwinnett was a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

In 1778, Gen. McIntosh with 1,000 men left Fort Pitt. His original intention was to march his army to Detroit. He pushed boldly out into the unbroken forest. With so much secrecy was his army raised, and so quickly did they move through the Indian country, that the savages were not aware of his presence until he had completed the fort. After garrisoning and provisioning it, he fell back with his force to Fort Pitt. The post was besieged nearly all winter by the Indians. After several massacres, and ambushes, and many romantic and hair-raising episodes, the garrison evacuated the place.

The remaining earthworks were entirely obliterated in 1826 by the building of the Ohio canal. McIntosh undoubtedly followed Bouquet's line of march, when in 1764 he cut a wide swath through the forest from Fort McIntosh to this point, rescuing the white prisoners held in captivity by the different Indian tribes of the Ohio valley.

Indian Communication

This trail also passed through the important Indian towns of Wauktaunkee town, Three Legs old town, old Wyandot town, Bullets town, Tom's town, and the before-mentioned Newcomers town. It passed near but not through the Pickaway towns.

At upper Shawneetown a trail ran directly east, seventy miles, to Muskingum river, nearly following the present National road. Another trail ran from this town, west of north via the "Sandusky plains" and upper Sandusky, (Fremont) one hundred and seventy miles, striking the "Miami of the lakes" at the junction of the Auglaize and Maumee rivers where old Fort Minnis stood.

Before reaching upper Shawnee town the Scioto trail passed through a locality that has held much to interest the antiquarian and archaeologist. South of the trail lay an ancient walled city, whose earthworks, earthen walls, circles, squares, parallelograms, semi-circles, covered ways and mounds spread over some five square miles of territory, are emphatically suggestive of the long, mysterious past of our country's history.

Commencing at a point on the upper Shawnee and Fort Minnis trail, about 30 miles south of upper Sandusky, the Scioto and Cuyahoga war trail ran a little north of east some 72 miles to Hell town, thence directly northeast as straight as a bird could fly, to the Portage Path and the Cuyahoga valley.

Indian Communication

Returning to the lake shore we find another trail leaving Presque Isle, running due south fifteen miles to Fort Le Bœuf, on Lake Petite, the source of Riverie Aux Bœufs, of the early French. Geo. Croghan, Sir Wm. Johnson's lieutenant, field agent and Indian agent came here in 1760. In 1753, George Washington, then Colonel of Virginia troops, was sent here on a mission by the Colonial authorities. He remained three days and conferred with Le Gardeur de St. Pierre, the commandant of the French fort. Mr. Clayton, of Virginia, in a letter to the Royal Society of England, bearing date of Aug. 17, 1668, speaks of this river and lake and infers a much earlier settlement than history states. In the light of to-day's knowledge it is mighty interesting reading. The first English map in which even Lake Erie is laid down is Morden's "New Map of the English Plantations in America." This map gives the name of the lake as "Felis Lake," or in other words the "Lake of the Cat." Overtons "New Map of America," issued in 1740, places lakes Huron, Ontarius and Erius directly south of each other. In 1756, Popple's "A Map of the British Empire in America," shows La Riverie Aux Bœufs, yet knows no Monongahela or Kanawha.

From Fort Le Bœuf the trail ran nearly south through Pennsylvania, some one hundred and twenty miles to Fort Pitt.

Indian Communication

From Mohican John's town, the point 45 miles south of Sandusky, where the southern east and west trail turned east, another trail bearing west of south, led down the west side of White Woman's river to Owl's Town, on the big bend of that stream. From here it continued in the same direction to Lick-town, on the upper waters of the Scioto; and then down the west side of the river, passing the town of Circleville, where stood a series of ancient works. In 1815, these works of a lost race were in a fair state of preservation. They consisted of circular and square earthworks, connected by a gateway. The circular work was double walled, with a ditch between its inner and outer wall. The walls at that time were about twenty feet high and sixty-nine rods in diameter. Opposite the gateway leading into the square works was a semi-circular work, obviously for guarding the entrance. The square was fifty-five rods from side to side, with walls ten feet in height.

The trail then continued down the river to Lower Shawnee town at the junction of the Scioto with the Ohio.

From old Fort Minnis, at the junction of the Maumee and Auglaize, this trail ran northwest through Ohio and Indiana, branching just south of St. Joseph river. The southern branch twisted southward and led on to the Illinois river, and by that stream to the mighty Mississippi. The

Indian Communication

northern branch led in the shortest way to the head of Lake Michigan, and from the time of the Jesuits, to Fort Chicago. It rounded the lake, passing on its way the present site of Milwaukee; thence bearing in a crooked, although northwesterly direction, it pushed its way on to old Fort Winnebago, on the Wisconsin river. This not only opened the way to the great unknown northwest, but also to the better known and more hospitable southwest, the Mississippi and all its branches, as well as to the gulf country.

From Fort Pitt east, the route was either by "Nemacolin's Path," by Fort Bird, afterwards "Redstone Old Fort," over the Laurel Hills, to Fort Cumberland, at the head of canoe navigation on the Potomac, the route that Washington followed; or else by the old George Forbes road, past the later Forts Ligonier, Bedford, Lyttleton and London, and down the Susquehanna.

About half-way between the Pennsylvania line and Sandusky, and about half-way between Lake Erie and the Muskingum Indian towns lay Portage Path, the center of Indian communication; not only for the "Ohio country," but for the great west, the trans-Mississippi valley. It is best to understand in the start that "the Ohio country" furnished but three portages on "the Gulf to the Great Lakes Route;" that of these three, the Portage Path was the most central, best known, the easiest, shortest, driest; possessed more living

Indian Communication

springs along its route, and more pleasant, secure and dry camping grounds; also that it was "the country where beaver, deer and the elks keep," was on its southern end, well lined with numerous fresh water lakes, containing savory fish and inhabited by aquatic fowl; was in fact a genuine hunter's paradise.

↳The "carrying place" on the west was some sixteen miles long, and almost every foot on low, wet and swampy grounds; the rivers small and but little known, the hunting poor, and the camping grounds few and far between. Almost the same objection would apply to "carrying place" on the east, it being fifteen miles long, and but little known except to the wild tribes of the Keystone state; but the Portage Path with half the carrying distance was every foot on dry and solid ground, and reached nearly to the 41st degree of north latitude, the "Water-shed" of the "Ohio Country, around which clustered 64 fresh water lakes, many of whose bottoms are lower than that of Lake Erie. Less than half a day's travel by Indian runner, from Portage Path, the Lake Shore trail crossed the mouth of the Cuyahoga, giving communication to Conneaut, Presque Isle, Buffalo Creek, Niagara and all points east, and to Rocky river, Black river, Sandusky, Detroit and all points west. A day's travel by Indian runner from Portage Path would communicate with all the Tuscarawas and Muskingum towns, or over the central, east and

Indian Communication

west trail with Fort McIntosh and the Mahoning and Beaver Valley towns, to the east, or with the Sandusky plains to the west. Over the great Scio-to war trail which started from the Portage Path the Indian towns in Wayne, Ashland and Richland counties could have been reached in short order, sweeping clean the Chippewa, Killbuck and Mohican valleys.

In about equal distances from the central east and west Indian trail which crossed the Cuyahoga at the northern end of Portage Path, the Lake shore trail crossed the mouth of the Cuyahoga, while the southern east and west trail crossed the Tuscarawas near Bolivar. Both of these rivers take their source from the same locality—one runs north, the other south, both, in a time beyond the ken of man, were one river, running south and emptying its waters into the Gulf. One of the branches of the Cuyahoga has its head in Summit Lake; this also is the source of one branch of the Tuscarawas. Another branch of the Cuyahoga has its head in Springfield Lake, seven hundred feet above Lake Erie; still another takes its course from Fritche's Lake, still another takes its course from Whyoga Lake, truly a lake river as the Indians named it; rising in lakes, it flows through the bed of an ancient geological lake, some twenty-five miles long, and empties its waters in a lake. We are thus particular on this point as it bears largely on the aboriginal history of the country. These

Indian Communication

rivers taken together, furnished the red races a great water highway extending from Lake Erie to the Gulf of Mexico. Over this portage came the "Laughing Water" of the Massaugas and her Irish lover to their death. The northern end of Portage Path was for many years the scene of great activity. At this point were built three of Perry's war vessels that engaged the British during the famous naval battle upon Lake Erie; here, too, during the war of 1812 lay Gen. Wadsworth's army of occupation and in pioneer times this was the end of flat boat navigation on the "crooked river."

Long before the Northwestern Territory took form or shape Thomas Jefferson and George Washington were deeply interested in building a ship canal here to unite the Cuyahoga with the Tuscarawas. The Portage Path was four times made the subject of Indian treaty and its lands were three times paid for and it was three times made the western boundary of the United States, standing thus until 1805. This north and south aboriginal highway was also the central one, connecting three east and west routes. The eastern north and south trail ran from Presque Isle to the Scioto River; the western north and south trail ran from Sandusky to the Scioto. The central north and south route connected with all the others. It had a great land highway leaving Portage Path near its center, where Akron now

Indian Communication

stands, and running 160 miles southwest connected with the eastern route from Presque Isle, and the western route from Sandusky. All of these trails had their termini at Upper Shawnee Town on the Scioto, thus completing a system of three great aboriginal highways both east and west, north and south, connected at regular intervals.

This system had four great centers; Pittsburg, Portage Path, Sandusky and Upper Shawnee Town.

Captain Pipe, the crafty, the cruel; king of New Portage, of the Wolf clan of the Delawares, the whilom king of the entire Delaware nation, had his chief village at the southern end of Portage Path, between the different Indian trails and within a few days reach of any point or points of the great aboriginal highways in this grand system of war trails by which the territory of seven states was reached.

For some reason unknown, the Indian fighters of colonial and pre-colonial days, as well as latter day historians, have overlooked the importance of the Cuyahoga valley as a prime factor in Indian wars until as late as 1794. The Delawares came into the valley as early as 1756. Chief Netawtwees with his tribe came from Kittanning, Pa., in that year, and built his village on the north bank of the Cuyahoga at "Big Falls." Previous to this there was an Iroquois village on the south bank, across the falls. Evan's map of 1755,

Indian Communication

shows a Mingo, Ottawa and Seneca village on the stream as well as a French trading house. But long before this, the precipitous sides of the valley were crowned with huge earthworks of many and peculiar shapes. It is true that the square and the circle and parallel walls were predominant forms, yet, there were others, indefinable forms which hemmed in inaccessible heights and plateaus, narrow promontories putting out into the valley.

Further up the river were pictured rocks, which through the writings of Colonel Charles Whittlesey have stirred the pulse of the scientific world to a faster pace. Along the Portage Path, and at both ends were Indian villages; while along the trail were found pictured trees, yet seen at the time of the original survey. This valley at one time contained fully a thousand warriors; two villages alone numbered five hundred. Compare this with the early population of any given point within the limits of the Northwestern Territory, and you will at once see that with the exception of "Fort Du Droit," it held the largest aboriginal population to the square mile. August 7, 1757, Treedyuscung, King of the Delaware nation, and arbitrator of ten different tribes, at the close of a treaty held at Easton, Pa., said to George Croghan: "We have now finished; the treaty is over, peace is confirmed, and I told you that I thought of going to Philadelphia, but upon con-

Indian Communication

sidering the matter with more attention, I think it will be more for the public service to proceed immediately to Diahoga, and proclaim there to nations still more distant the confirmation of the peace with our brethren, the English. This will take up three or four months."

Indian tribes pronounced Cuyahoga differently. The Delaware name for the river was Diohoga. Fernow, in his second map, calls it Diohoga. This map was published in 1754. In his first map, published in 1684, seventy years earlier, he calls it Kayahoge. Hawkins in his map of 1777, calls it Canahogue, while Bowen and Gibson, in their map published in 1763, named it Guahago. Evan's in 1755, Jeffries in 1758, Hutchinson in 1764, and Andrews in 1783, all name it "Cayahoga".

George Croghan in his journal bearing date of July 19, 1757, says: "I understand it is the lake Indians that are annoying the frontiers at present, with perhaps one or two Delawares with each party." Sir William Johnson, British Indian agent for North America, at this time informed the British Lords of Trade that the warriors of the different nations were distributed as follows:

Michilmacinac—

Ottawas,	300
Chippewas,	320
Other tribes,	400

Indian Communication

Scioto River and Branches—	
Shawnees,	300
Susquehanna, Muskingum, Tuscarawas,	
thence to Lake Erie—	
Delawares,	600
Sandusky Fort, near Lake Erie—	
Wyandots,	200
Detroit—	
Wyandots,	400
Pottowattomies,	200
Ottawas,	300

This estimate of Johnson's falls over 6000 short, but he admits that there are many he has not located. He makes no mention of the Chipewas, Massaugas, Mingoes, Shawnees, Wyandots, Ottawas, Senecas and Pottawattomies of the Lake region.

Had the early whites thoroughly understood this system of Indian highways with their various centers of communication, the massacre of Moravian Indians would never have occurred. The Indian war of nearly 30 years bloody duration would possibly have ended in two or three. Thousands of valuable lives would have been saved to their country and friends. Millions in property would have been undestroyed; hundreds of cabin homes and lonely hamlets would have remained unburned; civilization would have come earlier in the great Northwestern Territory, and the material resources of the boundless west would have soon-

Indian Communication

er budded, blossomed, and borne fruit, and our history would not have been written in blood.

It is not generally known, but the British Parliament in 1774 passed an act making the Ohio River the southwestern, and the Mississippi the western boundary of Canada, attaching it to the Province of Quebec; but for jurisdictional purposes the territory was placed in charge of the Colony of Virginia, its Royal Governor being Lord Dunmore, who afterwards burned Norfolk, escaped to an English ship and sailed across the sea.

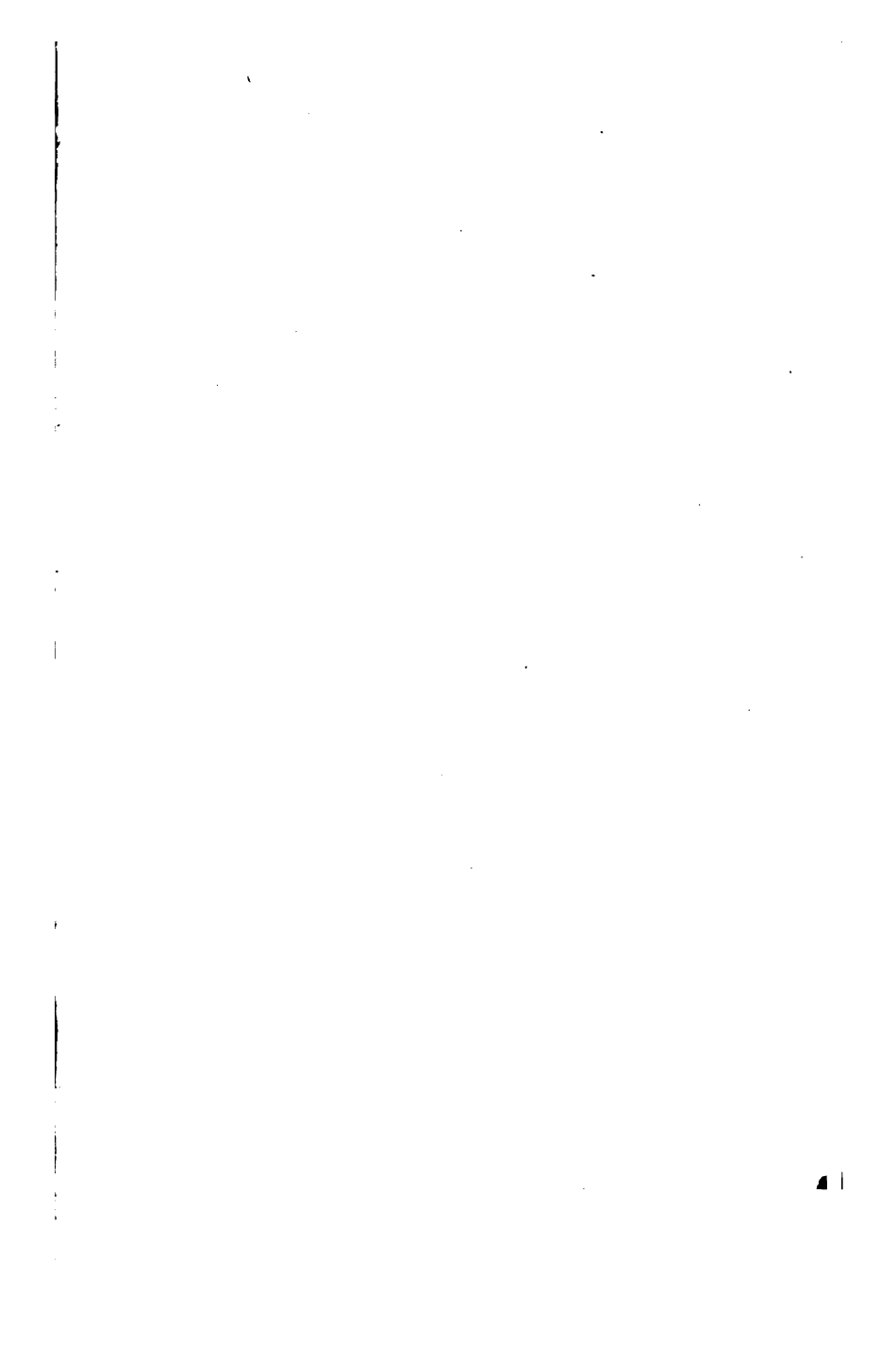
From Portage Path, the Cuyahoga valley, Pittsburg, Beaver, Fort McIntosh, Fort Le Bœuf, Detroit, Sandusky, Fort Miami, the Tuscarawas and Muskingum towns, and upper and lower Shawnee Towns, trails spread out, fan-like, to Indian villages, secure retreats, choice hunting grounds, fresh water lakes, and other local points; as many and as varied as the veins in the human body.

General William Henry Harrison was the first white man and Indian fighter who understood this great system of communication. Every stream was a much prized highway, and the trails ran in every direction. He proceeded accordingly. Troops were stationed at Pittsburg and Beaver. An army lay at the Falls of Maumee, at or near Sandusky, and at the northern terminus of Portage Path. Thus the communication of the savages was cut, their plans were disarranged, their highways were shut, their secret fastnesses closed,

Indian Communication

their ardor dampened. In this peculiar condition of affairs they flew for protection to the frowning walls of British fortresses, or sought refuge in England's armies. They were cut off in detail, not only whipped time and time again, but conquered, cowed, annihilated, so far as ever again being a factor of evil in the Ohio valley.

All hail to Portage Path! great in the days which have gone by, thy memories shall never die.





**Statue to John Brown, of Ossawatimie,
on Portage Path**

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An Historic Path: A Movement to Mark It in a Suitable Manner is Started

Closely following my appeal to the honor of Summit County citizens, published in the Akron "*Daily Beacon-Journal*," under date of Nov. 28, 1903, that same Journal published, under the above heading, the following article which by permission I reproduce here:

"A conference between County Surveyor J. A. Gehres and City Engineer Payne was held Wednesday morning after other county officials had been consulted, and it was definitely decided that steps should be taken to ask the state legislature, through Representative Wm. Buchtel, to appropriate money for a complete survey of Portage Path, and to erect monuments and markers along the famous route."

"There was some talk of having the work done by local support, but it was decided that inasmuch as the path is not only of local and state importance, but also has a national significance, state aid at least should be asked to establish the lines of the historical route, and to place proper monuments at conspicuous points along the road. It has been estimated by County Surveyor Gehres

An Historic Path

and others interested in the project that \$2,500 will be sufficient to cover the expense of the survey and to supply the monuments. It is proposed to ask power to survey the road its entire length and to establish its lines and mark them so that they will ever be distinguishable."

"The plan contemplates the erection of probably seven life-size statues of Indians, to be located at the following points: three in Perkins Park, one on West Market street, one near Summit lake, and one at each end of the path."

"The path begins at a point on the Cuyahoga river near Old Portage, and continues southeastwardly through the western and southwestern parts of the city to a point near the canal feeder near Long lake. A road follows the path nearly the entire length, but in a general direction only.

It will not be difficult to outline the exact boundary of the path, and it should be done because of the local and national significance of the route, as followed by the American Indians for years before the whites came into the country. The line was at one time the western boundary of the United States; an iron sign on West Market indicates that fact. For this reason should the state refuse to donate the amount required, it is felt that Congress should appropriate the required amount.

The state will be asked to make the appropriation, however, without much doubt. It has also

An Historic Path

been suggested that the historical societies of the country would willingly donate a sufficient sum were they apprised of the importance of the route."

"Col. George T. Perkins is known to be very much in favor of the scheme, especially as it will give added interest to the magnificent park that he has given to the city. As the path passes through the park, it is proper that it especially be designated there, and this much of the work will be done at least."

"Surveyor Gehres has been making some surveys, already along the path so far as it relates to Perkins park, and it was this action that started the movement to mark the entire path.' "

"Speaking of the project to erect monuments along Portage path, Senator Dick said before his departure for Washington, Wednesday: 'I think the scheme is a good one and believe the state ought to make a small appropriation for the purpose.'"

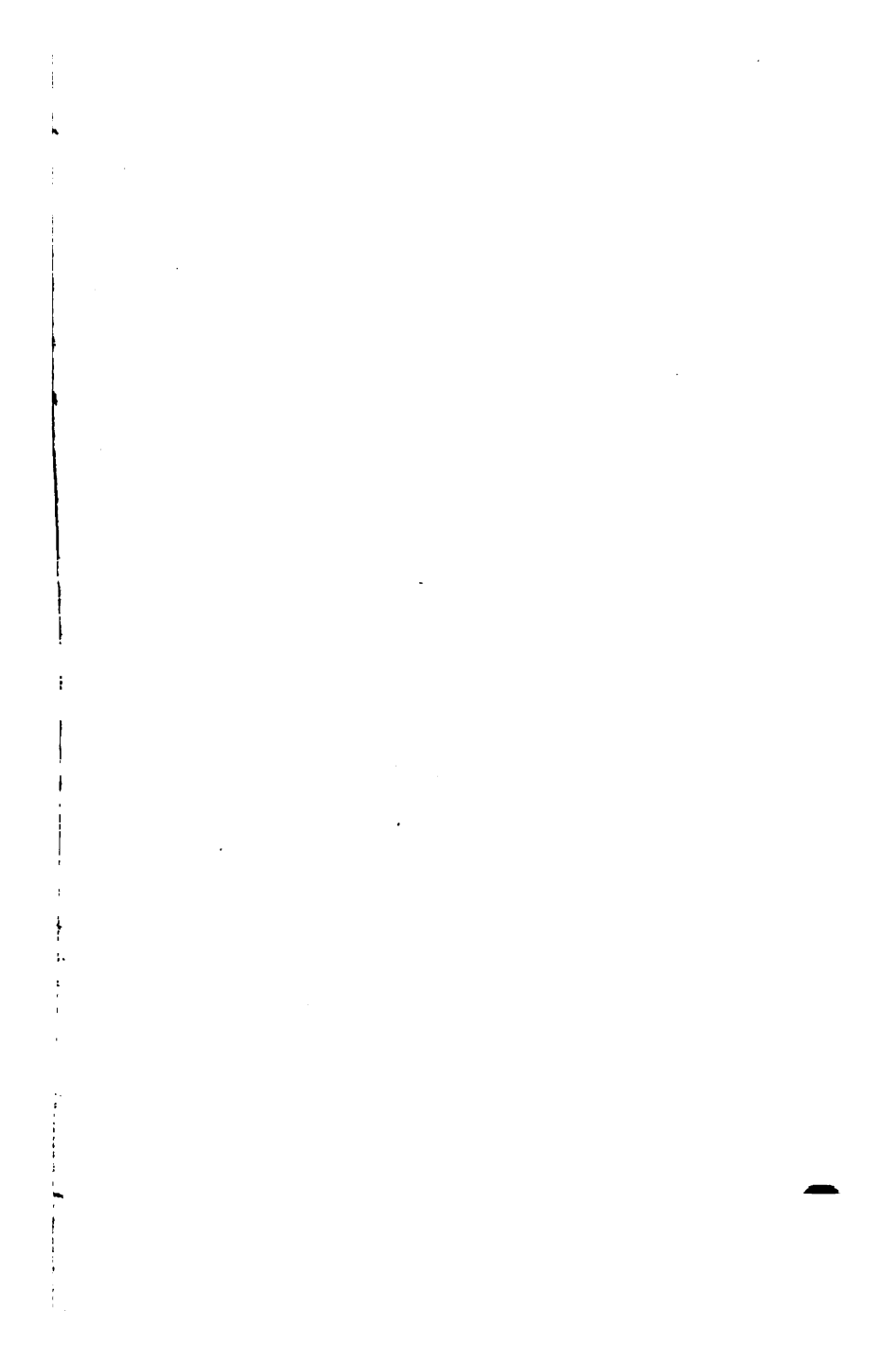
"It is understood that the county commissioners promised to pay half of the expense of the survey, if the city directors of public safety would pay the other half. The latter board, however, felt that, under the present financial circumstances, they could not well afford to appropriate money for the purpose. Then it was decided to ask state aid for the project."

Like many other popular movements where attempts are made to freeze out those most in-

An Historic Path

tensely interested in the work, this movement ended in hot air and smoke; it is now up to the Chamber of Commerce to take it in hand and see what it can do.

The affair culminated in Mr. G. F. Kasch, and the Daughters of the American Revolution taking up the work and erecting an Indian statue on Portage Path at West Market Street. The result of their labors is given in the next chapter.





**Statue to Mark Portage Path West Market
Street, Akron, Ohio.**

Courtesy of G. F. Kasch



Statue to Mark Portage Path Dedicated Tuesday Afternoon, July 4, 1905

SERVICES WERE IMPRESSIVE AND
LARGELY ATTENDED

Under the above caption the Akron "*Daily Beacon-Journal*" of July 5, 1905, published the following, which by permission we copy.

"With services that were impressive the handsome statue, presented to the city by Gus F. Kasch, to perpetuate the memory of the trail used by Indians in making the "big portage" in their trips from the waters of the north to those of the south, was unveiled and dedicated Tuesday. The exercises were in charge of the Daughters of the American Revolution. This mark, the first of its kind to be erected in Summit county, will be followed by several other similar shafts to be placed in various parts of the county to keep fresh in the minds of the people of the present and future generations the more important phases connected with the building up of Summit county."

"Ex-Mayor W. B. Doyle was chairman of the day and seated beside him on the platform were veterans of the civil war, descendants of the

Statue Dedicated

men who fought in the Revolutionary war, and other distinguished persons representing almost every walk in life."

"Soon after the dedicatory services started, Mrs. A. E. Heintselman, Regent of Portage Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, was introduced by Mr. Doyle and after delivering a brief sketch of the Portage Path the white covering was drawn from the statue amid the cheers of the entire crowd."

"Following the unveiling of the statue, Mayor Kempel in a short speech bespoke the appreciation of the citizens of Akron and in their behalf accepted the gift. 'It is with more than passing interest that we are gathered here today to mark the location of the path used by the aborigine in his long overland travels,' said Mayor Kempel. 'This path, the place where we now stand, was the connecting link between the waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the waters of the Gulf of Mexico, and in accepting this gift which means so much to the people of Akron and of Ohio, I have to thank the generous donor Mr. Gus F. Kasch who in making this presentation is happy in the idea that he is commemorating what he considers and what is an important part of the early history of Ohio.'

'It might be well at this time to look back and see what the unveiling of this statue recalls. Before the visionary Columbus had realized the ambition of his life this path was the main artery

Statue Dedicated

between the North and South. Along its length the Indian carried the simple belongings used in the commerce of that day. To the red man who preceded us, Portage Path was as important a factor in the life of those days as are our railroads today. Portage Path is the dividing line between the long ago and today and it is with great pleasure and honor that I accept this statue in behalf of the citizens of Akron.' ”

“Mayor Kempel was followed by T. C. Reynolds who was appointed by Gov. Herrick to represent the state at this dedication and who, after a brief historical sketch of the Portage Path, accepted the statue in behalf of the Governor and the State. Senator Chas. Dick also spoke at some length, as well as others. Gus Kasch, the giver of this work of art, spoke a few words thanking the people for the aid they had given him in the dedication.

About 100 feet from the Indian statue an old school house once stood, in which S. A. Lane was once a teacher. This was in the years 1835—6. But few of the present generation remember the historic old building, but about a dozen of the oldest residents of the county say that they remember the edifice well. It was built of rough hewn logs and stood on the spot many years. It was torn down over 50 years ago.

We understand that the “Daughters of the American Revolution”, have appointed a committee

Statue Dedicated

to put up another monument to mark Portage Path this coming summer, 1911. The interest these ladies have manifested in historical matters is to be heartily commended, and far exceeds that of their "lords and masters". This is largely due to the fact that the purest blood of Revolutionary sires courses through their veins, making of them the best ladies, as well as the most patriotic body in the city.

In absence of Mrs. Chas. Knight from the city, we are unable to obtain further particulars, but understand that the monument in question is to be a huge boulder, with a proper marker to match; so Mrs. E. C. Allen informs us, and this in turn is verified by Mrs. Mayor Sawyer.

All honor to the ladies, the Daughters of the American Revolution!

The writer has been endeavoring to raise funds to erect at the southern terminus of Portage Path, a life-sized, bronze statue of an Indian entitled: "Watching for the Coming White Man."

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**Little Mary Campbell, the First White
Female on Path**

The Story of Mary Campbell, the First White Female on the Portage Path.

Among the prisoners delivered to Col. Bouquet at his headquarters on the Tuscarawas river in the fall of 1764, were a Mrs. Stuart and her companion, little 12 year old Mary Campbell.

These, so far as is known, were the only white prisoners held by the Indians in the territory now included in Summit county.

The story of these lonely waifs so far from people of their own color is but one of many in the annals of the border warfare of that day. The great number of white prisoners held at that time by the Indians can best be estimated by the number delivered to Bouquet but 25 miles below the south line of the Western Reserve. The records show that he received 49 males, and 64 females belonging to Pennsylvania, with 32 males and 58 females belonging to Virginia, a total of 206; plus 150 more afterward delivered at Fort Pitt, making a total of 356 captives held in but a small portion of the state.

In the fall of 1759, shortly after the signing of the Crogan treaty of that year, the Delaware

Story of Mary Campbell

Chieftain and King of the Wolf clans, Netawatwees, and his warriors, after a prolonged pow-wow in their village near Kittanning, struck the painted post and in all the rude panoply of war-paint and feathers, marched forth against the scattered white settlements on the Susquehanna. Among the out-lying lonely hamlets in this beautiful valley was an isolated cabin occupied jointly by two families; one by the name of Campbell consisting of the father and daughter Mary, the other consisting of Mr. Stuart, his wife and four children. For some time nothing had arisen to alarm the lonely settlers, and in the morning in question, the two men after eating their breakfast, departed to their labor, not knowing that every motion was shadowed by a savage and relentless foe.

After the morning's work was finished Mrs. Stuart who had an errand at their nearest neighbors, several miles distant, left her children in the care of little Mary Campbell and departed on her journey. Some time after the woman's departure the Indians, much to the alarm of the children, took possession of the cabin, waiting for the return of some of the adults. Little Mary, although too young to understand the full import of the proceeding, was very much frightened and kept the huddled children near her in one corner of the room. While waiting, the Indians ransacked the house and made up their bags of plunder.

Upon the return of Mrs. Stuart from her

Story of Mary Campbell

neighbors she heard the screaming of her frightened children long before she reached the cabin. Starting on a run she was horrified upon opening the door to find the room filled with savages. She was instantly made a prisoner, and hurried preparations were immediately begun for departure. The younger children were divided among their captors who made off with them and their plunder on their backs; Mrs. Stuart carrying the infant which was fretful and hard to be kept quiet. The savages convinced that it retarded their flight, in spite of the woman's intreaties, took it from her arms, and in the presence of the shrieking mother, dashed its brains out against a tree and threw its yet quivering body into the bushes besides the path and increased their speed, urging their tired, alarmed and grief-stricken captives to their best pace. Among the prisoners was Sammy Stuart, a little 7 year old boy, who found it difficult to keep up with the others, and was frequently carried on the back of the Indian to whom he was assigned. On the third day out from the cabin, the savage who was carrying little Sammy dropped behind the others but soon reappeared alone, with a fresh scalp hanging at his belt which the frantic mother recognized as that of her little son. There was no time for grief, as the savages were continually nagging their captives to a greater speed by frequent use of blows and threats.

Story of Mary Campbell

Arriving at the Indian village the family was separated. All of the children, except Mary were taken to other villages, and upon the expulsion of the Delawares from Pennsylvania valleys in 1759-60, Netawatwees and his tribe, with Mrs. Stuart and Mary Campbell, moved to the Cuyahoga valley, settling at the Big Falls of the Cuyahoga, Hopocan, as the Indians called it. Mary Campbell's first home in the "Ohio country," was in the "Old Maid's Kitchen," where the squaws and papposes were temporarily domiciled, until the village could be built. This spot, for a time long unknown had been the site of an Indian village. Previous to 1650, the Eries, that little known and very mysterious race, had a village here. After their massacre and dispersion as a race by the combined Five Nations, the Iroquois built a village on the south side of the river; a little later, Netawatwees erected his village on the north bank. As far back as is known, the plain of North Hill was without signs of ancient forest growth. The entire plain, as well as certain points of the Cuyahoga valley, was used by the Indians as corn fields.

When first seen by the whites the North Hill was a green oasis of a waist-high, waving mass of variegated wild flowers, beautiful beyond comparison, hemmed in and around by gigantic trees of an ancient forest growth. It was here that little Mary Campbell hoed corn 72 years before Akron

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Old Maids Kitchen. Little Mary Campbell's First Home in Ohio

Story of Mary Campbell

became a village. She had been adopted by the King of all the Delaware tribes in the "Ohio country," and was kindly treated. She spent much of her time at the northern terminus of "Portage Path," fishing, nutting, and gathering berries, and as far as is known was the first white female ever on or near the historic path.

Not only this, but as far as is known, Mrs. Stuart and Mary Campbell were the first female captives within the limits of the Western Reserve.

During the winter of 1755, Col. James Smith was held a captive at the Falls of Elyria. In making his escape he made his way through Medina County and presumably along the Central Sandusky and Fort Pitt Indian Trail, crossing the northern part of Portage Path at Old Portage.

John Brickell, who was taken captive by the Indians in Pennsylvania, in 1791, also, undoubtedly, came over Portage Path, on his way to the Delaware Indian Tuscarawas towns, in charge of Simon Girty. Mr. Brickell afterwards built and owned a residence directly opposite where the Ohio Penitentiary now stands.

The year that first saw Mrs. Stuart and Mary Campbell prisoners also brought that great historical figure, Pontiac, prominently before the American people. His camp, further down the Cuyahoga, was known to the borderers as "Ponty's Camp," and became a great historical landmark. Major Rogers with 200 British soldiers were at

Story of Mary Campbell

that time camped on the Cuyahoga.

In 1764, Mary Campbell was turned over to Gen. Bouquet, on the Tuscarawas, and was returned to her Pennsylvania home where she was afterwards married to Joseph Wilford, in the year 1771. She afterwards resided in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, where she raised a large family of children. Her son became one of the earliest pioneers of Stark county, and his son, her grandchild, afterwards became a member of the Ohio Legislature, from Wayne county. He was named after his grandfather, Joseph Wilford.

The Building of Perry's Vessels, 1812

These three vessels were built at the northern end of Portage Path, at Old Portage, by the United States, thus making this point the first navy yard in Ohio.

In the month of January, 1813, the Navy Department of the United States found it necessary to build three small vessels to be used as gunboats on Lake Erie. It was discovered by Capt. Perry that small vessels, being more easily and rapidly worked, could do effective service in a close contest.

The contract for building the boats was awarded to Brimel Robins, of Alleghany county, Pa. He selected Old Portage, on the Cuyahoga river, as the place to build them. The timber and lumber was furnished by Captains Rice and Stowe, and was sawed in the mill of Francis and Zenas Kelsey at "Old Cuyahoga village." Stewart Gaylord superintended the boat yard. In June the three gunboats were launched and named "Trippe", "Tigress" and "Portage." The latter boat was afterwards re-named "The Porcupine," from the fact that one of the men employed in their building and in floating them down to Cleveland,

Perry's Vessels

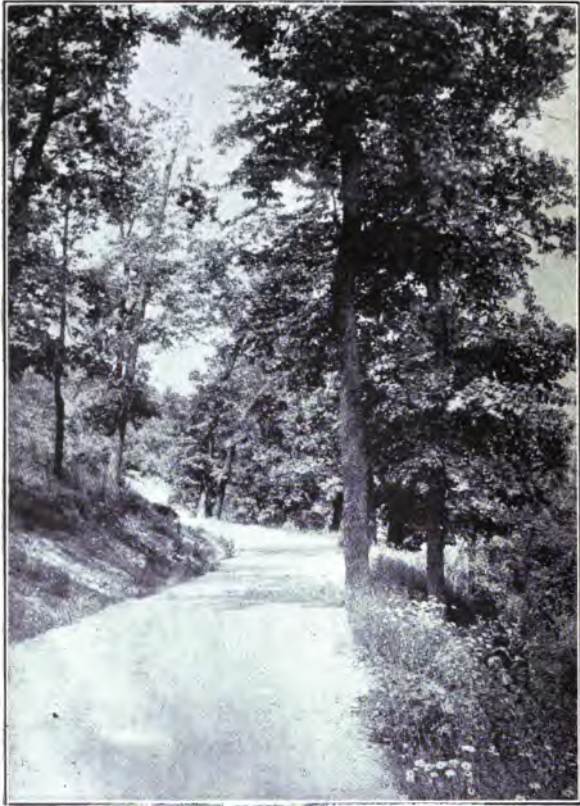
killed a porcupine and threw it on the deck of the "Portage." This animal was unknown to many of the men, who viewed it with great curiosity, and then, and there, re-named their boat "The Porcupine." Wm. Coggsell, the pioneer of Granger township, was the young man. Of this trip he said: "I was employed with others to float them down to the Lake, with instructions that when we got to the "Pinery," (near Peninsula) we should furnish each boat with masts and spars. At the "Pinery" we were detained several days in procuring the necessary rigging for the boats. At that place I killed a porcupine which was looked upon as an animal of great curiosity by our small crew. When we got to Cleveland, the gunboats were examined by many, and the general opinion was that they were the kind needed."

Cleveland at that time was but a small village of less than 175 inhabitants.

These boats at once went into commission and did good service during the battle of Lake Erie. Good old Summit oak, built in Summit county, helped to whip the British.

In the first line of battle these boats were on the extreme right. In the second battle position, these boats had forged ahead to the center; the Trippe occupying the most advanced position of any of Perry's fleet.





**The Beginning of Portage Path, West of
River and Canal. North End**

Perry's Vessels

At the close of the battle, the "Porcupine" had traversed the whole line of battle and was found on the extreme left, opposing the British "Lady Prevost." "The Tigress" was near the center confronting the British "Little Belt." "The Trippe" was well advanced beyond the outer lines in pursuit of the British vessels "Hunter" and "Chippewa." Besides these two vessels, Capt Holdup, assisted by the "Scorpion," chased "Little Belt" and her consort "Chippewa", which had turned tail and were running away, and captured them, the "Trippe" bringing in the "Chippewa" unaided.

While these vessels were building at "Old Portage" and during the time Gen. Wadsworth's army of occupation lay at this point, it was a very busy place; as many as one hundred teams loaded and unloaded here each day. All the supplies used by Gen. Perkins at Camp Avery, and by Gen. Meigs at Fort Meigs, were boated here from Cleveland, and shipped overland over the new military road cut through to the Huron river.

The first saloon in Summit county was located on the Portage Path at this place. It was conducted by a Frenchman with an Indian wife. He also ran a trading post, and the majority of his custom was among the Indians, whom he got full and then watered his whiskey. When they had drunk themselves sober they would say "Indian

Perry's Vessels

get too much Cuyahog—ugh!" Then he would have to reverse the dose and give them more whiskey and less water.

New Portage as An Early River Port.

Thomas Jefferson in his "Notes of the State of Virginia" written in 1781, says:— The "Muskingum is 280 yards wide at its mouth, and 200 yards at the lower Indian towns, 150 miles upwards. It navigable for small batteaux *to within one mile of a navigable part of Cuyahoga river which runs into Lake Erie.*" The commencement of the portage on the Cuyahoga, was called "Old Portage."

In the "Ordinance of Freedom," or the Ordinance of 1787, the Congress of the United States said, "The navigable waters leading into the Mississippi and St. Lawrence, and the carrying places between the same, shall be common highways, and forever free, as well to the inhabitants of the said territory as to the citizens of the United States."

Capt. Thomas Hutchins, in a publication published in London, in 1788, mentions among the "carrying places between the Ohio and Lake Erie, "From Muskingum to Cayahoga, is the best portage between the Ohio and Lake Erie."

Early River Port

Evan's map, published in 1755, gives the "Cayahoga" river, the "Portage," and a stream designed for the Tuscarawas.

The Indians had used this "Portage," and these rivers as, a highway for many years. This was the treaty line made with Indians at Fort McIntosh in 1785, also confirmed at a later date at the treaty of Greenville. It was thus made the western boundary between the United States and the Indian nations.

Tallmadge Mills, or Middlebury as it was afterward called, now "East Akron," or "Sixth Ward," was the only trading place for many miles around the "Portage." Goods for this place were shipped there in the early days by the way of the Cuyahoga to "Old Portage," or by the way of the Muskingum and Tuscarawas to "New Portage." and from thence to Middlebury by teams. "These boats were long, narrow vessels, frequently "dug-outs" as they were called. They were from twenty to forty feet long, and from three to five feet and were propelled by poles while going against the current. Their capacity was from ten to twelve barrels of pork, salt, flour or whisky. Salt sold in those days for twenty dollars per barrel, while a barrel of whisky could be bought for about five dollars, or even less, if the barrels were returned.

In 1819, William W. Laird built himself a cabin on the banks of the Tuscarawas at "New Portage," and began the construction of flat-boats,

Early River Port

to run on the river. These boats were loaded with all kinds of produce and consigned to New Orleans, without breaking bulk. They passed down the Tuscarawas into the Muskingum, thence into the Ohio and Mississippi, and after a journey of some two months reached their destination.

Henry Chittenden, of Springfield, Abram Norton of Middlebury, and Philander Adams, of Tallmadge afterwards became contractors and speculators in the produce of the country, which they bought of the farmers all over the country and hauled to "New Portage" and shipped on Laird's boats to New Orleans. This seems almost incredible to those who know the insignificant size of the river at this point. But such was the case, as we learn from old people, who still remember this river as a turbulent stream, which, at certain seasons, was impossible to ford, and which at all times was a goodly stream. After the canal was cut through, the river dwindled to its present size. Now, however, have "the mighty fallen," and the school-boys wade across its bed, or catch the minnows which sport in its shallow waters,

This is the history of the starting and the opening of "New Portage" as a Port. To-day, even New Portage is gone, and will soon not be known under that name as it has now moved westward and taken on town airs and has become part of the corporation of Barberton.

Why the Lands West of Portage Path Did Not Become Part of the United States Until 1805

Sir Wm. Johnson's steal of 40,000 acres of Indian lands was bolstered up by the treaty of Fort Stanwix, November, 1768. The importance of this and its material benefit to Ohio history has been much overlooked by national and state historians. The line thus fixed by the Six Nations, as far as our state was concerned, was the last treaty made by the English.

The absurdity of some treaties made by Great Britain is shown by the treaty at Albany, July 19, 1701, between Sir Wm. Johnson and the Five Nations. We give an extract, spelling, capitalization and all:

"A tract of land lyeing between the great lake Ottowawa (Huron) and the lake called by the natives Sahiquage, and by the Christians Swege (Erie) and runns till it butts upon the Twichtwicks and is bounded on the right hand by a place called, Quadoge (head of Lake Michigan, Chicago) contegning in length about 800 miles and in bredth 400 miles including the country where the beavers, the

Part of the United States

deers, and elks keep (Ohio.)” This shows that poor Lo was not above deeding land that did not belong to him. This created such a furore among the western tribes that England was glad to let the matter drop. This was no more a treaty than was Lord Dunmore’s so-called treaty in November, 1774, at Camp Charlotte, O. Before a treaty could be made he had burned Norfolk Va., with all its military stores and shipping, and was on his way across the ocean to his royal master.

Connecticut surrendered her claim to all Ohio territory south of the 41st degree of latitude, and west of a line 120 miles from the west line of Pennsylvania, in the month of September, 1786. In January, 1785, the treaty of Fort McIntosh made the western boundary line of the United States, which the Fort Stanwix treaty had fixed, move westward to the Cuyahoga and Tuscarawas rivers and the Portage Path. Congress was under the delusion that it had acquired the Indian title and full dominion of all the lands between this line and the Ohio river. This was the occasion of a remonstrance sent Congress by the Council of the confederate Indian Tribes of Ohio, from their seat of power, near Toledo, a section of which reads as follows:

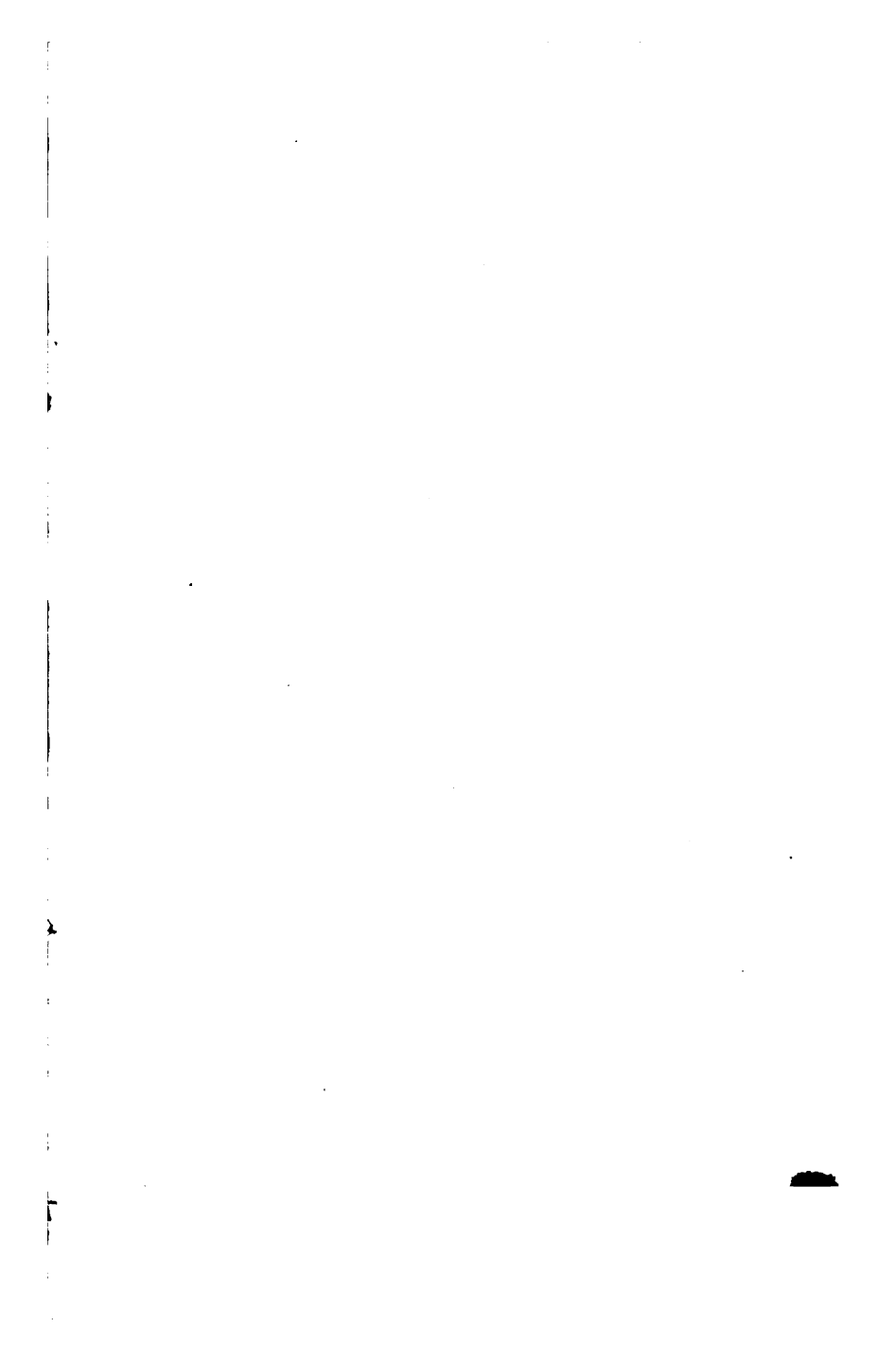
“In their opinion the first step should be that all treaties on their part, carried on with the United States, should be with the general voice of the whole confederacy, and in the most open manner,

Part of the United States

without any restraint on either side; and as land matters are often the subject of our councils with you, and a matter of the greatest importance of general concern to us, in this case we hold it indispensably necessary that any cession of our lands should be made in the most public manner, and by the united voice of the confederacy: holding all partial treaties as void and of no effect."

"We think the mischief and confusion which has followed is owing to your having managed everything respecting us in your own way. You kindled your council fires where you thought proper, without consulting us, at which you held separate treaties, and have entirely neglected our plan of having a general conference with the different nations of the confederacy. Had this happened, we have reason to believe everything would have been settled between us in a most friendly manner. We wish, therefore, you would take it into serious consideration and let us speak to you in the manner we proposed. Let us have a treaty with you early in the spring. We say let us meet half-way, and let us pursue such steps as become upright and honest men. We beg that you will prevent your surveyors and other people from coming on our side of the Ohio river."

Words of truth and wisdom! And yet Congress was mute. The people of a great nation, of a Christian land, wished to deal with these people by force and fraud and chicanery. An open, hon-





**A Portage Path Indian, Oogontz—Indian
Chief and Catholic Priest**



Part of the United States

est way was to be avoided on the principle that one stick was more easily broken than a bundle of them; in union there was strength. Indeed General St. Clair admitted this when writing to the President of the United States; he says: "The reason why the treaty (Fort Harmar) was made separately was a jealousy between them, which I was not willing to lessen by appearing to consider them as one people."

Such were the tactics used by our forefathers to cheat Lo out of his inheritance.

A year after the Fort McIntosh treaty, or in January, 1786, the treaty of Fort Finney indorsed the Cuyahoga Portage Path line. So did the treaty of Fort Harmar of January, 1789. In addition to this, the line was endorsed by two treaties not known in history. The first was between 50 Indian chiefs and Moses Cleveland in June, 1796, in Buffalo, N. Y. The second was at Conneaut, Ohio, in July, 1796, between the same agent of the Connecticut Land Company and Indians of Ohio. The three former were made by government officers appointed and sanctioned by Congress and afterwards approved by same authority.

England had no rights to any territory west of the Scioto, and very doubtful ones to any west of the Ohio. She had never secured such rights by either conquest, treaty or purchase; so said General William Henry Harrison, in 1839, and a better authority did not exist. The Hon. Rufus King

Part of the United States

said: "England had not planted the American colonies, and had no proprietorship or right in the land they took. They were the work of men who had individually or by companies been left by the English government to find territory and make a country for themselves."

During the war of the Revolution there was another war west of the Alleghenies, not sanctioned by governmental proclamation, not aided by governmental troops, or supplies, or arms, or treasure. An isolated people, they were left to go it alone, and "sink or swim, survive or perish," as the case might be, and yet, there was more blood spilled, more lives lost, more treasure wasted and more suffering endured than by the thirteen colonies during their entire eight year's struggle. The "Ohio country" was born in a baptism of blood and fire; the darkness of night was lighted by burning homes, and shocked by the shrieks of outraged womanhood, the screams of childish despair, the crack of the rifle, the swish of flying tomahawks, the yell of defiance and the moans of dying manhood.

The proprietary rights in this land belonged to nobody on earth except the Ohio Indian nations; theirs were the primary rights, they were indigenous to the soil; France, England and the United States could form no national boundary lines in this land without the consent or conquest of these "sons of the soil." The only earthly rights the

Part of the United States

first mentioned countries could claim were political rights and these were of very equivocal value. The Hon. J. Fenimore Cooper, the best authority on land titles ever in the United States, says: "We white people can very well understand that a humane government, which professes, on the principles recognized by civilized nations, to have jurisdiction over certain extensive territories that lie in the virgin forest, and which are used only, and that occasionally, by certain savage tribes as hunting grounds, should deem it right to satisfy those tribes by purchase before they parceled out their lands for the purpose of civilized life; but it would not be so easy to make an unsophisticated mind understand that there could be two owners to the same property."

The anti-rent war of New York proved the greed and unscrupulousness of white men in regard to land titles. Because a man had paid a very nominal rent for land for a number of years, had improved the property, it was claimed by the anti-renters that the owner of the soil had no rights to the land which he had bought and paid for after quieting the Indian title, except such rights as they, the renters, were willing to concede.

France claimed territory west of the Ohio river, not by conquest nor by purchase, but simply by the right of discovery; yet she maintained armed posts in spite of England and English laws until wrested from them by General George Rogers

Part of the United States

Clark, not for England, not for the United States, but for the struggling pioneers west of the Alleghanies. Although France had ceded her paper rights to England at the treaty of Paris in 1763, yet, the lilies of France still floated over her armed posts in the Illinois country and St. Louis until 1778, and at Detroit until 1780. Although England had ceded her paper rights to the United States at the treaty of Paris in 1783, yet the royal standard of England floated over armed English posts in Ohio until the war of 1812. So much for paper rights.

Col. Chas. Whittlesey, late president of the Northern Ohio and Western Reserve Historical society, has stated: "The land west of the Cuyahoga and Tuscarawas rivers and Portage Path was held in 1788 by the Indians and the British."

Congress of the United States, in 1787, affirmed that "the utmost good faith shall always be observed towards the Indians; their lands and property shall never be taken from them without their consent."

In 1801 the citizens of the Western Reserve, east of the Cuyahoga, petitioned congress to be taken into the United States, which was granted.

England inherited the paper rights of France, and in her last treaty with the North American savages, at the first treaty of Fort Stanwix, in 1768, made the western boundary of her domain

Part of the United States

the Ohio river. In 1774, six years later, the English Parliament made the Ohio river her south-western boundary; nine years later she ceded her paper rights to the United States, whose congress, four years later, declared that the Indians' land should never be taken from them without their consent.

Indian treaties made at the second treaty at Fort Stanwix, in 1784, relinquished only the claim of the Six Nations to the Ohio valley; this was followed by the treaty of Fort McIntosh in 1785, Fort Finney in 1786 and Fort Harmar in 1789, the treaties at Buffalo, N. Y., and Conneaut, Ohio, in 1796, which relinquished the Indian title to all lands east of the Cuyahoga, which were paid for three separate times. These treaties were accepted and confirmed by the congress of the United States, which made it felony for whites to settle on land west of the Cuyahoga, punishable by heavy penalties.

The consequence of this was that the lands west of Portage Path did not become a part of the United States until after the treaty of Fort Industry, in 1805, by the terms of which treaty the Indians were paid the sum of \$10,000; \$6,000 in coin and \$4,000 in merchandise. Settlers, however, were not allowed to purchase land until 1807. The Connecticut Land Company commenced its survey of its lands west of the Cuyahoga in 1806, but did not finish until early in

Part of the United States

1807. The United States, not satisfied with its survey of the 41st meridian of north latitude, re-surveyed that parallel as well as the western line of the Western Reserve and that of the Connecticut Fire lands. This was completed in 1807 and settlers admitted.

